

Florence deal denounced as 'figleaf'

Major claims victory in the beef war

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND CHARLES BREMNER IN FLORENCE

JOHN MAJOR called off the beef war with the European Union yesterday after four weeks of conflict.

But his claim that the unprecedented campaign of obstruction the Government has waged against EU business had won him his objectives was met with derision from some Brussels officials and individual member countries. They launched an immediate attempt to rubbish last-minute concessions which had been hailed by ministers as soon as the deal was signed.

Hopes that Britain may soon be able to export to third countries such as South Africa were played down. Officials called the deal a "figleaf" and a "sop to British public opinion".

Agreement was reached at the end of yesterday's first session of the two-day EU summit in Florence, with all the combatants relieved to put an unhappy period in EU affairs behind them. After the deal reconciling Britain's demands for an agreed process for lifting the ban with Europe's insistence on public health guarantees, Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, said the compromise "removes a dark cloud".

Mr Major declared himself extremely pleased and said that he had achieved a satisfactory agreement much earlier than he would have done otherwise. "This has been a squabble. We had something



Major yesterday: "This has been a squabble"

that we had to sort out. It was necessary to bring it to a speedy conclusion."

In a series of interviews heralding the deal, the Prime Minister said last night that he expected to begin getting the ban lifted in the autumn. He denied that he had damaged the EU. "We have these disagreements from time to time. There is not a nation in the EU that does not sometimes stand up and fight for its interests... If countries were treated as Britain was treated, they would defend their national interests.

"What stokes up ill feeling and resentment in the UK sometimes is the feeling that perhaps Britain is being put upon." He dismissed Eurosceptics' fears that he might

Continued on page 2, col 7

David Davis, page 2
Leading article, page 25

that we had to sort out. It was necessary to bring it to a speedy conclusion."

In a series of interviews heralding the deal, the Prime Minister said last night that he expected to begin getting the ban lifted in the autumn. He denied that he had damaged the EU. "We have these disagreements from time to time. There is not a nation in the EU that does not sometimes stand up and fight for its interests... If countries were treated as Britain was treated, they would defend their national interests.

"What stokes up ill feeling and resentment in the UK sometimes is the feeling that perhaps Britain is being put upon." He dismissed Eurosceptics' fears that he might

Continued on page 2, col 7

David Davis, page 2
Leading article, page 25



English and Spanish supporters join a pre-match party at the Banco Exterior de Espana in the City yesterday

England holds its breath for Spanish encounter

By ALAN HAMILTON
AND JOHN GOODBODY

BEEPS will buzz and blackbirds chirrup undisturbed for 90 minutes today as a great silence descends on the English summer afternoon. Lawnmowers will be stilled, and all the noise will be indoors, except at Wembley.

England's Euro 96 quarter-final football clash with Spain, the most important encounter between the two countries since 1988, will be watched on BBC1 by an estimated 18 million people, a British record for Saturday afternoon viewing. England's semi-final against West Germany in the 1990 World Cup attracted 25.2 million viewers, but that was in the evening and on both channels.

There will be little escape. British Airways, which will have 90 flights in the air around the world during the period of the match, has arranged to radio regular bulletins to its captains so that they may keep passengers up to date on the game's progress. Travellers on BA flights to Spain will be offered free champagne irrespective of their nationality.

Traditional English pursuits will be equally infected. Organisers of this afternoon's Francis Bailey primary school annual fete at Thatcham, near Newbury, Berkshire, spent yesterday in search of a spare television set to install in a makeshift bar. Linda McCullagh-Smith, the school head, said: "We are certainly not going to be put off by the football; we will have a TV in the school because we don't want all the men to wander off just before 3pm." Village cricket

Continued on page 2, col 3

Euro 96, pages 53-56

Murder trial 18 years after killing

A man accused of murdering Lynn Siddons, 16, went on trial 18 years after his stepson was cleared of murdering her. Michael Brookes allegedly ordered his timid stepson, Fitzroy, to stab Lynn beside a Derby canal in 1978. Then took over himself. Page 3

India 261 behind

India were 83 for two after the second day of the second Test at Lord's. 261 runs behind England, for whom Jack Russell, the wicketkeeper, scored 124. Page 51

Stuck in space

Two cosmonauts face an extra 20 days in the Mir space station because Russia cannot afford the Soyuz rocket boosters that ferry them to and from it. Page 19

Among the Times overseas editions: \$1.40 Belgium B Fr 80; Canada \$1.35; Caribbean \$1.35; Denmark Dkr 18.00; Cyprus £1.20; DFl 1.20; France F 14.00; Germany DM 4.50; Gibraltar £1.00; Greece Dr 1.00; Holland Ecu 1.00; Italy L 4,500; Luxembourg L 60; Malta Ecu 350; Norway Kr 20.00; Portugal Dr 1.00; Spain Ecu 350; Sweden Kr 19.50; Switzerland S Frs 4.00; Tunisia Din 2.00; USA \$1.50.

The Times on the Internet
<http://www.the-times.co.uk>

25
770140 046466

Children stranded by French port violence

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS, SUSAN BELL IN OUISTREHAM, AND JONATHAN PRYNN

THOUSANDS of British holidaymakers were caught up in a wave of violent protests over BSE across France yesterday as mobs of rioting French beef farmers blockaded two Channel ports.

In the worst incident, a ferry with 500 passengers was forced to wait outside Ouistreham harbour in Normandy for 13 hours, preventing it from picking up a stranded party of sick and disabled children.

Three other ferries bound for Cherbourg from Southampton, Portsmouth and Poole were delayed by up to two hours by fighting between farmers and police outside the Normandy port.

The Foreign Office warned of further delays for visitors to France today as the farmers' protest stepped up its protest over the collapse in beef sales across Europe triggered by the British BSE scare. Brittany Ferries, whose ves-

sel Normandie was forced to turn away from Ouistreham on Thursday night, said it was demanding an inquiry by the French authorities and threatened legal action. The ferry finally docked at 7.30am yesterday.

"I can't emphasise how outraged we are that yet again our service has been disrupted and that the French authorities made no arrangements to allow us to go about our business," said a spokesman for the company, which

Passengers said one group of schoolchildren were put up in the town hall in Caen by the Mayor, who gave them food and bedding.

Passengers on the ship were all allocated cabin berths or reclining seats and were served an evening meal and breakfast, Brittany Ferries said. Other services were unaffected.

The police and other people were pleading with the farmers, saying the kids had run out of food and medicine but they just did not care.

The protest also hit French schoolchildren on a trip to England. Their crossing was delayed by the protests.

Michelle Laisnel, a teacher who was looking after a party from the Creneux School in Calvados, Brittany, said: "The [farmers] were chanting and shouting, and when the riot police came some of the children became frightened."

Passengers said one group of schoolchildren were put up in the town hall in Caen by the Mayor, who gave them food and bedding.

The Mayor of Sancerre in the Sancerre region has warned that he will turn British holiday-makers away from the local campsite for their own protection.

One of the ferries delayed by farmers' protests

story claiming that he had told Mr Major he wanted to resign because of personal frustration and his dissatisfaction with the Government's European policy was rubbish.

Throughout the day, however, neither Mr Davis nor other ministers and government officials would confirm or deny that a letter had been sent to the Prime Minister. Questioned by television reporters, Mr Davis said "of course" he was on board with Mr Major. He said he had written "half

Rumours have been circulating in

Westminster for some weeks that Mr Davis — MP for Boothferry in Yorkshire — is unhappy with his non-Cabinet job. He also complained to colleagues last July that he had not been promoted in the reshuffle.

Last night there was speculation that he had submitted the letter before the policy of non-cooperation with Europe had started and that he might subsequently have withdrawn it.

Davis profile, page 2

Europe minister goes to ground over 'resignation'

By JILL SHERMAN
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

DAVID DAVIS, the Minister for European Affairs, went to ground yesterday as the Government tried to play down reports that he had offered his resignation to John Major. Mr Davis, normally an accessible figure, kept normally an accessible figure, kept well away from journalists at the European Union summit in Florence. On arriving at the city's airport yesterday morning he said a newspaper

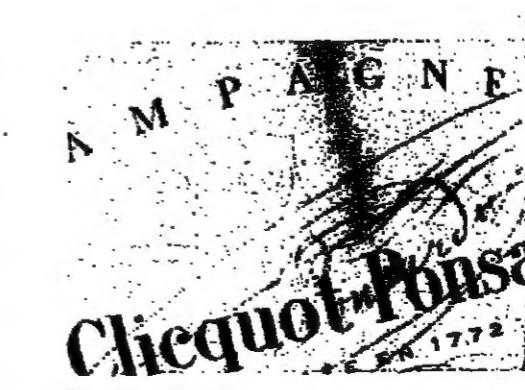
story claiming that he had told Mr Major he wanted to resign because of personal frustration and his dissatisfaction with the Government's European policy was rubbish.

Throughout the day, however, neither Mr Davis nor other ministers and government officials would confirm or deny that a letter had been sent to the Prime Minister. Questioned by television reporters, Mr Davis said "of course" he was on board with Mr Major. He said he had written "half

Rumours have been circulating in



OUT FOR A DUCK



IN FOR A TREAT



IN FOR A TREAT

2nd CORNHILL TEST MATCH v INDIA, LORD'S 30-31 June

GERALDTON CRICKET 20 June-14 July

WIMBLEDON TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS 24 June-7 July

ROUND THE ISLAND RACE, ISLE OF WIGHT 29 June

VEUVE CLICQUOT GOLD CUP FOUL, GOLFERS PARK 29 June-21 July

3-11 July

HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA 9-14 July

HAMPTON COURT PALACE INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW 14 July

BRITISH GRAND PRIX, SILVERSTONE 15-20 July

1ST CORNHILL TEST MATCH v PAKISTAN, LEEDS 21-26 July

CLAUDIORE COOKING 30 July-3 August

CLICQUOT PRIMÉ 24-27 July

CHAMPAGNE OF THE SEASON

Veuve Clicquot

</

THE TIMES ON MONDAY

THE GREAT
SUMMER
OF SPORT

EVERY SUMMER
MONDAY
10P

FREE 16-PAGE
WIMBLEDON
GUIDE

With your chance to win
tickets to the women's final

WIN A TRIP

TO THE
OLYMPICS

An all-expenses
paid week
in Atlanta
for two

32 PAGES
OF TIMES
SPORT

CRICKET

David Lloyd
John Wark
Bob Hughes, former
England Test captain
and county batsman

PLUS

what we
believe

In part one of our series on faith in
the 1990s, why so many are
seeking spiritual self-assurance

EVERY DAY NEXT WEEK:
COLLECT TOKENS TO WIN A £22,000
ALFA ROMEO SPIDER

Dorrell gives the go-ahead for longer hospital waiting lists

BY NIGEL HAWKES

HOSPITALS were given the go-ahead yesterday to increase waiting lists to cope with the increasing demand for emergency surgery.

Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, approved the move as a "short-term response" to free beds in times of peak demand. But he said that it was unacceptable for managers to force patients to wait an extra two years for surgery. This was not the same as delaying an operation for one or two weeks.

"There is a world of difference between waiting a week or two for an operation and edging back to the situation that existed at the end of the 1980s," he said.

The rise in emergency admissions is

alarming hospitals, which have said that they may not be able to meet demand when it peaks during the winter months. Speaking to the annual conference of the National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts, Mr Dorrell said that there were many ways of coping with the pressures, including commissioning extra beds in the short term, reducing or delaying elective surgery, such as hip replacements, or opening short-term admissions wards.

Without abandoning the progress towards shorter waiting lists, which he said was an important achievement of recent years, Mr Dorrell made it clear that he did not expect further progress this year. He was prepared to envisage an increase, so long as it was only a matter of weeks. Mr Dorrell's speech

in Harrogate was couched in terms likely to win approval from health service managers but was received noticeably more coolly than that of the Labour leader Tony Blair the day before. The Health Secretary had no new initiatives to offer and has given health authorities and trusts a hard time by his demand for a 5 per cent cut in management costs.

This had been achieved, he said, releasing £300 million from administration and into patient care. When questioned, he declined to rule out further cuts, though he did concede that "what was right this year isn't necessarily appropriate to another year".

Some non-executive members of trusts and health authorities have also been concerned by the suggestion

made by Sir Len Peach, the NHS appointments secretary, that they should serve only one contract. Since many are appointed only on two-year contracts while others are given four years, this appears illogical, and Mr Dorrell agreed to think again. He said that he thought eight years was a reasonable maximum term.

His speech was a robust defence of the Health Service, accused by Mr Blair of sinking to the level of a "rump" service. Mr Dorrell denied the charge, saying that the NHS delivered equitable access to healthcare, at a cost few rival countries could match. "NHS healthcare is extremely efficiently delivered," he said. "That simple fact represents an important British achievement which we should be determined to safeguard."

**Sanctuary
case man
has 'heart
attack'**

AN illegal immigrant who was taken by police from a chapel where he had sought sanctuary was in hospital last night with a suspected heart attack. Albert Tong, 43, will remain under observation at Treliske hospital in Truro, Cornwall, while doctors await the result of tests.

Mr Tong has lived illegally in Britain for 17 years. A Home Office spokeswoman said: "We will not move Mr Tong until we have been told that it is safe to do so."

Asylum ruling, page 10

Ballot go-ahead

Mike Watson, Labour MP for Glasgow Central, was yesterday refused an injunction to prevent a number of listed members from voting in a selection ballot for the Glasgow Govan constituency, in which he is standing. The Court of Session in Edinburgh ruled that the Labour Party had properly checked the eligibility of all those entitled to vote.

Beef deal

Continued from page 1
from grass-fed BSE-free herds is likely to be lifted first, with the bans on embryos, calves born after a specific date this year, meat from animals under 30 months old and, finally, the overall ban being lifted later.

The summit also agreed that requests from third countries — outside the EU — to import British beef could be approved separately by the Commission after consulting the all the appropriate authorities.

In moves that emphasised the depth of bitterness that has built up during Britain's battle with the rest of Europe, Mr Major's fellow leaders declined to include the decision in their final communiqué and to leave it as a separate declaration. More important, Commission officials went out of their way to belittle the likely impact of the deal, saying that it would not result in any relaxation of the third-country bans before the EU bans were lifted.

That was disputed by British officials who said that the declaration allowed for interim measures. However, Klaus Van der Pas, chief Commission spokesman, said the third-country concession "does not commit the Commission to anything at all. It does not commit member states to anything. If there is a request, it will be examined."

Last night the National Farmers' Union welcomed the end to the political bickering, but said: "The details of the settlement are still worrying. We can see no scientific justification for the extra call."



Davis combines strength with guile and charm

Self-confident Euro Minister who believes in his destiny

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE chubby face of David Davis has always shone out among the drab ranks of middle-aged, middle-ranking, male ministers. Since he came to the House nine years ago, observers — and Mr Davis himself — have been convinced it wouldn't be long before he was wielding power at the Cabinet table.

Brought up in working class South London and still bearing the scar on his upper lip from a crowbar attack in Brixton, Mr Davis combines sharp determination with guile and charm. The Minister of State at the Foreign Office can be as straightforward as Kenneth Clarke or as obscure as a Brussels technocrat and his colleagues quickly realised that his career comes before all else.

A few Tory grandees even thought of the young Thatcherite as potential Prime Ministerial material for the next Millennium. But the slightly chippy former grammar school boy and self-made businessman has become increasingly agitated

that he will be stuck in the second stream until the general election.

Even worse, if Tony Blair gets in he won't have had the distinction of having had his own department and chauffeur and might have to wait for years for another chance.

Friends say Mr Davis, 47, was infuriated when he discovered that he had not been given Privy Counsellor status in the recent honours list — an indication that he might have been destined for the Cabinet.

He frequently points out to colleagues that he hasn't put a foot wrong since becoming MP for Boothferry in 1987. A skilful behind the scenes operator, he is adept at soothing the Prime Minister's nerves.

The party grassroots like him. His constituency chairman describes him as "immensely lively, self-confident and ebullient and a complete loyalist".

He is "happily married" with three children. His only failure so far has been an inept speech on Europe he gave at the dispatch box last

year. An avid Eurosceptic, he was given his present post precisely because his presence would reassure fellow sceptics that the Foreign Office would not sell British interests.

He is well aware of his own academic abilities and has made it clear to friends that he knows he could do a better job than either Gillian Shephard, Virginia Bottomley or Douglas Hogg. Education is the portfolio he would most like.

He is also determined to

raise his profile. He showed his mettle to the party for four years in the Whips' office where he was most active during the Maastricht debates.

He also made several enemies among rebels who still see Mr Davis as a softly-spoken bully and a careerist who sacrificed his Eurosceptic principles for ambition.

They will be pleased that he might finally put his career on the line.

Leading article, page 25

Lord's to show soccer clash

Continued from page 1

It will also pay its price. Andrew Riant, captain of Preston club near Hitchin, Hertfordshire, said: "We will have a TV in the clubhouse. I have been asked by the team to make sure I win the toss, so that we can bat first and watch the match in the dressing room." Other cricketers have been more far-sighted. Tony Dawe, fixtures secretary of Coldharbour cricket club in Surrey, made sure months ago that there would be no game today. At Lord's, the

cabbies will stay at home and watch the match."

Some of life's vital strands are, however, expected to proceed as usual. Chelsea Register Office reported that it was fully booked for weddings this afternoon.

Bookmakers reported yesterday that £5 million had already been wagered on the match. William Hill make England 11-8 on to win, and 11-4 on to go through regardless of extra time or penalties.

Euro 96, pages 53-56

Post workers claim victory with strike

BY PHILIP BASSETT

UNION leaders last night claimed a success after the first national postal strike for nearly eight years.

Staff will be working overtime today to clear the backlog from the 24-hour strike called by the Communication Workers' Union over pay, productivity and teamworking proposals.

The next 24-hour strike is

scheduled to start at noon on Thursday.

Champion again

Steve Howe, 34, a systems engineer, is The Times' Lease Plan Company Car Driver of the Year for the second consecutive year. He beat 11 finalists in tests of skill and observation at Silverstone and was presented with his award last night by Steven Norris, minister for road safety. Richard Crow of the Pfizer pharmaceutical company was second.

Land deal
delay robs
pensioners
of nest-egg

EIGHT years after agreeing an offer for their 10-acre plot, a dwindling group of pensioner allotment holders will now share a 15-minute walk to the plot. But in the time since the deal was first made, nearly 200 original members have died and the price of the land in Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, has fallen by £4 million.

Bill Halford, chairman of the South Leamington Allotments Society, said: "We have lost nearly 50 members in the last two years and I am sad. We are all the same age."

"We thought it would be a nice little nest-egg to have, but delaying it now and after all the delays I can't be certain if ever materialise."

"The wife and I have been basic state pensioners for a week. It will be nice to have some money before I die, but I become very frustrated," he said.

Delays were caused by a dispute among members about how much the land was worth and the rival claims about the size of the plot.

A.C. Lloyd, the developer who wants to build 120 houses on the site, then began lengthy negotiations about access with Warwick District Council. Planning permission is expected to be granted next week. Detailed plans for the entire development will then have to be submitted.

How to
a day sh

350,000
TAX-FREE PRIZES EVERY MONTH

sales desk

To buy off the page, simply turn to 'Weekend Money' for an application form. There will be information on investments and seasonal opportunities from National Savings in this space every week. For a copy of the full terms and conditions of today's offer, or for a free copy of our Virtual Shop Guide, covering all National Savings' unique investment opportunities, you can call us free anytime on 0500 500 000.

Call free anytime on
0800 500 000

NATIONAL
SAVINGS

today's offer
WIN A
£1 MILLION
EVERY MONTH
OR YOUR
MONEY BACK

key plus
points

You can invest
£100 to £20,000

Money back at any time

All prizes tax-free

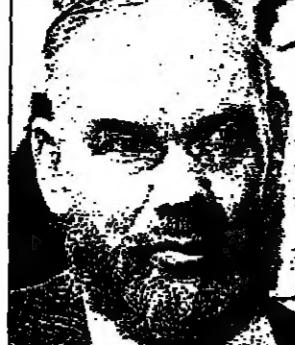
Premium Bonds
Every month you have
the chance to win £1 Million without losing
your original stake.
As well as this, Premium Bonds are a good
investment because, with a total prize
fund of 4.75% pa, you have the chance to
win one or more of the 350,000 tax-free
prizes each month.

Unique Investment Opportunities from HM Treasury

مكانت الأصل

Stepfather 'told timid boy to take blame for murder'

By STEPHEN FARRELL



A MAN went on trial for the murder of a teenage girl yesterday, 18 years after his stepson was cleared of the crime. Michael Brookes allegedly ordered his timid stepson Fitzroy to begin the attack then manipulated him into taking all the blame.

The victim, Lynn Siddons, 16, was a neighbour who had become friendly with Fitzroy, then 15. After questioning, the boy confessed to police and was charged with murder.

He was acquitted at Nottingham Crown Court in 1978 after saying that his stepfather instigated the killing and took part. Yesterday Mr Brookes was said to have boasted in a pub to a man who asked him if he committed the murder: "Yes, they will never get me though."

The victim was murdered



Murder victim Lynn Siddons and her grandmother, Florence, who raised the teenager as her own

bushes beside the Trent and Mersey Canal in Derby. She was found six days later.

"It is our case that he initiated the murder in that he involved the stepson in it, and he killed her by strangling her and at the same time stabbing her repeatedly," he said.

Brookes, now 51 and unemployed, from Cumbria, denies murder. It was alleged that he talked with his stepson about wanting to stab Lynn the day before the murder. Mr Palmer said that he was not only Fitzroy's stepfather, but his constant companion. "By the time he was 15, the defendant exercised a considerable influence over him. Fitzroy looked up to and respected the defendant, and did virtually as he was told," said Mr Palmer.

Lynn, he told the jury, often visited Fitzroy at home, but there was no suggestion of a sexual relationship. On the day of the murder, she and Fitzroy, who was carrying a sheath knife, went to fields near the canal where they walked until they were joined by Mr Brookes, who was carrying a carving knife.

"All three walked towards the canal and then into bushes. Michael Brookes grabbed Lynn round the mouth and neck area and held her tightly. He handed the carving knife to Fitzroy, and shouted at him to stab her," said Mr Palmer.

"Fitzroy did as he was told and stabbed once at Lynn, but the blade broke from the handle. The defendant then ordered Fitzroy to get his sheath knife out and stab Lynn. Fitzroy did as he was ordered, and stabbed her a few times. Then the defendant seized the knife from him and continued to stab Lynn."

Marks from the victim's fingernails showed she tried to pull the killer's hand from her throat. But the 5ft 3in girl, weighing just 7½ stone, was simply overpowered and died from strangulation within 20 to 30 seconds, Mr Palmer said.



Lynn Siddons's family yesterday: from left, her aunt Cynthia Smith, grandmother Florence, uncle Keith Siddons and mother Gail Halford

and stabbed once at Lynn, but the blade broke from the handle. The defendant then ordered Fitzroy to get his sheath knife out and stab Lynn. Fitzroy did as he was ordered, and stabbed her a few times. Then the defendant seized the knife from him and continued to stab Lynn."

A post-mortem examination gave the cause of death as strangulation, shock, and haemorrhaging from the stab wounds. The prosecution said that Mr Brookes dragged the body to the canal, immersed her head in the water, then pulled her into bushes. Her clothes had been pulled up to her neck.

If he told police that he, the defendant, was there during the killing, they would both go to prison for a very long time. If he, Fitzroy, had done it on his own, he would just go into a home for a couple of years.

Later that evening, Lynn's grandmother Florence, who raised the girl as her own daughter, became concerned and went to Fitzroy's house, where he duly told her the agreed story, said Mr Palmer. Fitzroy was arrested and taken to the police station where he admitted stabbing Lynn. But because he was a juvenile, police summoned a responsible adult to be with him during questioning.

Michael Brookes went to the station and was left alone with his stepson three times during the 2½-hour interview, at one stage for up to half an hour. Michael Brookes made a witness statement describing Fitzroy as "very timid". He claimed to have seen Fitzroy and Lynn walking together on the day of the murder, and one of them had waved at him. Later that day, he met Fitzroy walking near the woods alone, and Fitzroy told him Lynn had gone off to meet a friend.

But Mr Palmer said Michael Brookes had no supporting alibi, having claimed to have gone to meet his mother, but not gone into her house because he did not get on with her new husband. Fitzroy stuck to his story for six months, but in October, 1978, a month before his trial, "Fitzroy spoke to the police and implicated the defendant."

Mr Brookes was arrested for murder in Peterborough in July, 1992. The case continues on Monday.

Land deal delay robs pensioners of nest-egg

By IAN MURRAY

EIGHT years after accepting an offer for their 23-acre plot, a dwindling group of elderly allotment holders will soon share a £5 million windfall. But in the time since the offer was first made, more than 70 of the 200 original society members have died and the price of the land in Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, has fallen by £4 million.

Bill Halford, chairman of the South Leamington New Allotments Society, said: "We have lost nearly 50 shareholders in the last two years alone. I am 83. We are all around the same ages."

"We thought it was going to be a nice little nest-egg. I am almost too old to enjoy spending it now and after all the delays I can't be certain it will ever materialise."

The wife and I live on the basic state pension of £60 a week. It will be nice to get the money before I die. It has become very frustrating and rather sad."

Delays were caused initially by a dispute among members about how much the land was worth and then by rival claims about who owned some of the plots.

A.C. Lloyd, the developer, who wants to build 290 houses on the site, then began lengthy negotiations about access with Warwick District Council. Planning permission is expected to be granted next week. Detailed plans for the entire development will then have to be submitted.

Mafia chief's daughter gets armed guard

By CAROL MIDGLEY

THE 25-year-old daughter of a convicted Mafia general was recommended for extradition to Italy yesterday to face charges of drug trafficking. Armed police guarded Court One at Bow Street Magistrates' Court in London as Maria Eleanor Merico sat in the dock.

A cordon of police officers surrounded the building amid fears that Mafia hitmen hired by her father, Emilio di Giovine, would try to spring her from custody.

Ms Merico remained passive as Ronald Barde, the stipendiary magistrate, told her: "You are committed in custody to await the direction of the Secretary of State with a view to your extradition to Italy."

James Lewis, for the Italian government, said Ms Merico was accused of conspiracy to import and supply controlled drugs into Italy.

More than 100 people are



Maria Merico and her daughter live in Lancashire

How to give a blonde a day she'll remember

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

IN CASE you were too busy celebrating the end of National Broccoli Week to notice, yesterday was National Go Home on Time Day. If by chance you stayed late at the office, there are plenty more dates in the year ahead to catch up on.

National Be Nice to Blondes Day — January 17 next year — is one of them. It joins a bizarre list of days jostling for space in the national calendar.

Next Friday, for instance, is National Take Your Dog to Work Day. October 6 is the optimistically named National Day of Courtesy on Britain's Roads. November 23 is Abba Day, while October 31 heralds the alarming Bug Busted Day — Understanding Headlice. Where do they all come from?

Mari Louise Campbell, sales and marketing manager at Foresight, a "future events information service", said there were no restrictions at all. "If you publish anyone's

campaigns no matter how ridiculous, although how successful it is depends on their own publicity."

It took me just a few minutes of discussion and a fax to get Be Nice to Blondes Day fixed for my birthday and into the Foresight directory, competing for attention with 190 other dates. There is no charge for the procedure as journalists, public relations and marketing workers pay Foresight for information in the directory.

All companies, charities and egotists have to do is post an explanatory paragraph and an appropriate contact number for interested parties. Some select a whole month. September has been appropriated by the British Bathroom Council as National Shower Month. Less fragrantly, perhaps, cheese makers have nominated a week in September as National Cheese Week.

Prospective self-advertisers need not worry about clashing. In many cases it is actively

encouraged. Thus National Impotence Day sits alongside Valentine's Day on February 14.

Choosing which day to choose for my Be Nice to Blondes, we rejected the greater publicity generated by clashing with National Wonderbra Week in favour of a gloriously blonde day to ourselves. The new date will provide a day for blondes when they "can be assured of charming courtesy and intellectual deference from their darker-haired friends and colleagues". Maintaining it as an annual event will take little effort as Foresight will contact me a couple of months before the date to check I want to go ahead again.

Now it is simply down to my chosen campaign team to promote the day. In the meantime, we can enjoy National Left-Handers Day on August 13 and the Scouting Association's National Woggle Day in October.

JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY



If you'd like to know more about our unique whiskey, write to us for a free booklet at the Jack Daniel Distillery, Lynchburg, Tennessee USA.

130 YEARS AGO; this is where you'd go for a sip of Tennessee Whiskey.

If you were in the market for good whiskey back in 1866, you'd head right for the woods near Lynchburg, Tennessee. Lay your money down and Jack Newton Daniel himself would hand over a jug of his best. Nowadays, you can still find Jack Daniel's in the hills of Tennessee. And, we're glad to say, it's also available in your neck of the woods.



THE ROLLOVER

JACKPOT IS

£20 MILLION.

(ESTIMATED)



Due to Euro '96, this Saturday's Draw is at 9.20pm.

IT COULD BE YOU.  THE NATIONAL LOTTERY®

The value of prizes entirely depends on the number of winners and tickets sold. The National Lottery is subject to The National Lottery Games Rules and Procedures.

PLAYERS MUST BE 16 OR OVER. © Camelot Group plc.

مكتبة الأصل

THE owner
is linked
killing of S.
admitted
Kerry
Brink's-Ma
police want
The gro
Horror's Dar
Fort Knigh
detached in B
London, whi
address to
River Disc
have been
Mr Her
though he
on several
had no con
house that
The Disc
Ltd, MTF that
trace was
house in Sc
name Antim
Now used it
Francis while
the process
Brink's-Ma
berry during
tress from
sentence &
laundering

Mr Her
"Everyb
knows Ken
him on occa
acquaintan
friends." He
ed called Antim



Neighbou
pond slas
the act on

By ROBIN YOUNG

A 14-YEAR-old boy's
neighbours ended a 10-year
feud yesterday after the boy
was caught on camera
using a garden saw
with a homeowner's son.

Years of feuding
came to a head when
Vann put a knife to
a pole and sliced
off the head of his
brother, Derek, 16.

Vann, 14, had been
caught in the act by
an ornamental pond
camera Mr North
had set up as a security

The camera caught
Vann sneaking into
the garden of the Norths
in Writtle, Essex,
and attacking the pond
with a garden saw.

At Coventry Magistrate's
Court yesterday Vann, 14,
a garden saw and a

plan worker, pleaded guilty
to causing criminal damage.
He was traditionally sentenced

to 12 months and ordered
to pay £80 compensation and
£60 costs.

Melanie Warden, his
prosecutor, said Vann
had previously been
caught on the camera
crashing through a
wall he had built from
a garden saw.

When Mr North and
his wife returned from
a holiday in Spain in

last November, they
found the water in their garden
had disappeared. When
they played back the

camera tape, they
saw Vann

leaving his knife in
the pond three times.

David Latham, 16, who
had he and the Neigh
for 14 years, they had
neighbours. Mr N

had been

The videotape shows Vann

Owner of house in road rage hunt admits Noye link

BY ADRIAN LEE AND JOANNA BALE

THE owner of a house which is linked to the "road rage" killing of Stephen Cameron admitted yesterday that he knew Kenneth Noye, the Brink's-Mat robber, whom police want to trace.

The property dealer Peter Horton's Dartford company Fort Knight owns the semi-detached in Bexley, southeast London, which was used as an address to register a Land Rover Discovery that might have been used by the killer.

Mr Horton said that although he had met Mr Noye on several occasions, Mr Noye had no connections with the house that he knew of.

The Discovery registration L794 JTF that police want to trace was registered at the house in Bexley under the name Anthony Francis. Mr Noye used the alias Anthony Francis while he was handling the proceeds of the £26 million Brink's-Mat gold bullion robbery during the 1980s. He was freed from a 14-year prison sentence for his part in the laundering of the gold in 1994.

Mr Horton said yesterday: "Everybody around here knows Ken Noye. I have met him on occasion but we are acquaintances rather than friends." He knew no one called Anthony Francis.



Noye: police in M25 case want to speak to him

The house had been let to two women who left in May.

Kent police emphasised that Mr Horton had co-operated fully and was in no way implicated.

Police will only say they want to eliminate Anthony Francis from their enquiries.

and that they also want to speak to Mr Noye, 47, who is rumoured to have left the country the day after the killing on the M25 slip-road in Swanley, Kent, on May 19.

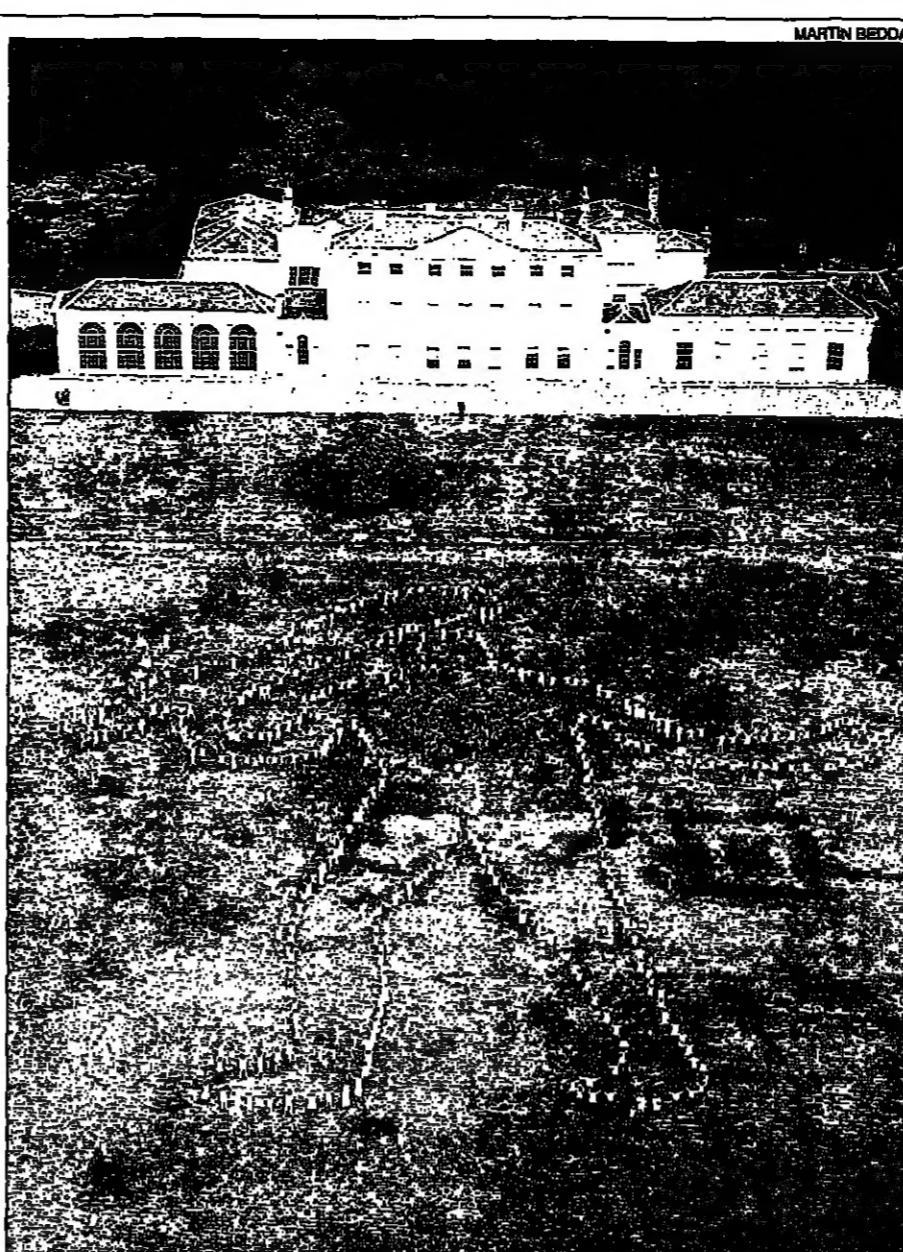
He is said to have been in Spain, northern Cyprus and Tenerife but there have been

no confirmed sightings. One police source said yesterday: "He has a lot of friends in far-flung corners of the world, and a lot of money. He must know what we want to question him."

Mr Noye's wife Brenda has told police that she and her husband, who have a home in Sevenoaks, Kent, lead separate lives, and that she does not know his whereabouts.

Mr Noye, once a printer's apprentice, became a multi-millionaire businessman. Brought up in a council house in Bexleyheath, he left school at 15 without qualifications, but within five years he was on his way to his first million. He worked evenings and weekends, driving tipper-trucks and selling programmes at race-tracks to earn his first £1,000 to buy land and build a bungalow. Business boomed when he started a haulage firm, investing profits in property speculation and dabbling in the stock market.

His rise was not without brushes with the law. He was sent to Borstal for receiving stolen cars and later fined for shoplifting and assault on a policeman. In 1977 he was given an 18-month suspended sentence for receiving and possessing a shotgun. In 1980, he began illegal gold-dealing.



A thousand children recreating the giant at Kenwood House in north London and, above, the real thing at Cerne Abbas in Dorset

Giant takes heart but loses vital part of anatomy

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THERE is no prize offered for spotting the missing member in a manoeuvre enacted yesterday by more than a thousand schoolchildren in aid of an appeal to raise £1.5 million for heart and lung research.

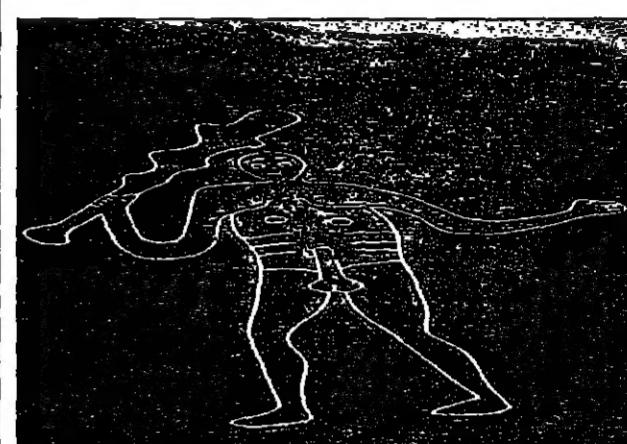
Dressed in red and blue T-shirts and holding coloured balloons, the children gathered in front of Kenwood House in north London to recreate the image of the Cerne Abbas giant, a prehistoric chalk figure cut into a Dorset hillside.

Under the direction of Jon Bunker, maker of the Halli-Building Society's television commercials, some

300 youngsters then changed position to give the giant a "heart". While gaining a heart, though, the figure was deprived of another important organ that has made the Dorset version a potent symbol for centuries.

A spokeswoman for the Royal Brompton Hospital's Heart of Britain appeal said: "We had to eradicate that part of the giant entirely. It might have offended the children, or, if not them, their teachers."

The bowdlerised image was photographed from the air for use in a book made of entries in a photographic competition illustrating the "heart of the nation".



Neighbours catch 'pond slasher' in the act on camera

BY ROBIN YOUNG

A 14-YEAR feud between neighbours ended in court yesterday after one of them was caught on videotape sabotaging the others' garden pond with a home-made spear.

Years of festering animosity came to a head when Ronald Vann put a knife on the end of a pole and slashed the lining of Derek and Marion North's ornamental pond. He was caught in the act by the video camera Mr North had set up as a security device.

The camera clearly showed Vann sneaking into the garden of the Norths' £75,000 home in Whitley, Coventry, and attacking the pond with three pricking movements.

At Coventry Magistrates' Court yesterday Vann, 49, a Massey Ferguson tractor plant worker, pleaded guilty to causing criminal damage. He was conditionally discharged for 12 months and ordered to pay £180 compensation and £40 costs.

Melanie Watters, for the prosecution, said that Mr North had previously argued with Vann over a boundary wall he had built that encroached on their garden.

When Mr North and his wife returned from the cinema last November, they noticed the water in their garden pond had disappeared. When they played back the videotape from the camera mounted in a bedroom, they saw Vann entering their garden and putting his knife into their pond three times.

David Latham, for Vann, said he and the Norths had not spoken to each other in 14 years they had lived as neighbours. Mr North had



Vann: regrettably actions

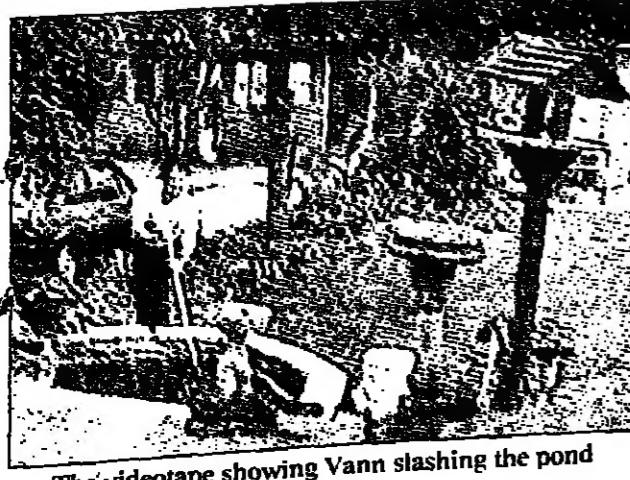
complained about Vann working on cars in his garden, and Vann had had to deal with Inland Revenue, environmental health and city council inspectors as a result.

He had finally seen red when he received a letter about the dispute over the garden boundary. Vann regretted what he had done.

The stipendiary magistrate, William Probert, told Vann: "This was not only a neighbourly dispute but a mean and spiteful act. There is nothing worse I can imagine between neighbours."

After the case Mr North, 65, said: "Essentially, we do not want anything to do with this man, but we cannot make him move and we have no intention of leaving the scene either."

Vann claimed his neighbours had three video cameras trained on his movements. The Norths said they had installed a camera after Vann had chopped a large Christmas tree which overhung his garden.



The videotape showing Vann slashing the pond

TRADE-IN £100

LEISURE LAUREAT 2
• Unique delivery and unique handling
• Easy to clean
Normal price £499.99 Trade-in £100
PRICE AFTER TRADE-IN £349.99

£349.99

Energy CENTRE

UP TO £150 TRADE-IN ON SELECTED COOKERS

BELLING COMPACT 315W
• Double oven • Glass programmer
• Convection oven
Normal price £399.99 Trade-in £150
PRICE AFTER TRADE-IN £239.99

TRADE-IN £150

BUY NOW PAY JAN '97* (APR 29.5%) ON SELECTED GAS AND ELECTRIC COOKERS

VALOR REVUE PLUS (WHITE)

Normal price £329.99
Trade-in £50
PRICE AFTER TRADE-IN £279.99

CANNON SALISBURY MKII

Normal price £499.99 Trade-in £100
PRICE AFTER TRADE-IN £499.99

NEW WORLD ESTEEM 3000 SE

Normal price £429.99 Trade-in £100
PRICE AFTER TRADE-IN £429.99

£30 DISCOUNT ON ALL SHARP COMBINATION MICROWAVES PLUS BUY NOW PAY JAN '97* (APR 29.5%)

SHARP R7E5 (BROWN)

Normal price £279.99
Discount £30
PRICE AFTER DISCOUNT £249.99

SHARP R7N76

Normal price £239.99
Discount £30
PRICE AFTER DISCOUNT £209.99

SHARP R7A65

Normal price £229.99
Discount £30
PRICE AFTER DISCOUNT £199.99

FREE SAMSUNG M6235/7 MICROWAVE (OUR NORMAL PRICE £89.99)

WITH ALL ELECTRIC FREESTANDING COOKERS OVER £400⁺⁺

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

ZANUSSI ZCM 5200W

• Fanned electric oven
• Gas hob
• Minute minder

Normal price £589.99
Trade-in £90
PRICE AFTER TRADE-IN £499.99

PARKINSON COWAN CAVATION 55Gd (WHITE)

• High level gas grill and gas hob
• Electric fully fanned oven

Normal price £749.99
Trade-in £100
PRICE AFTER TRADE-IN £649.99

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full sized ovens
• Eight hotplate burners
• Stayclean interior finish

PRICE ONLY £1,199.99

BUY NOW PAY JANUARY 1997* (APR 29.5%)

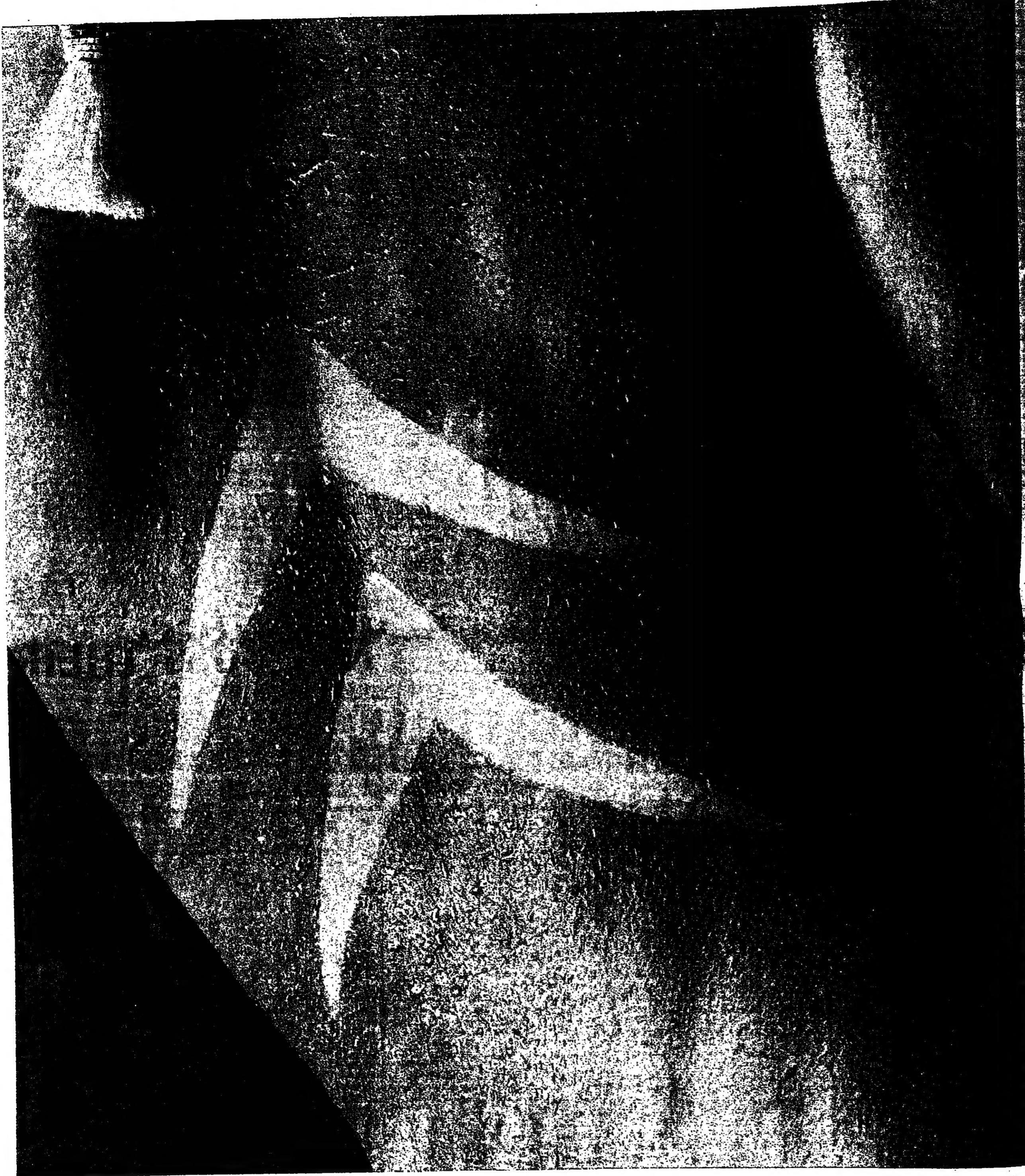
FREE KETTLE WITH ALL DUAL FUEL COOKERS

STOVES RANGE 1000 (GREEN)

• Two full



A new anti-perspirant from Citroën.



Introducing an advanced new formula to keep you fresh and dry: the Xantia with air conditioning.

We are now offering it at no extra cost throughout the Xantia range as an alternative to an electric sunroof.

What's more, no anti-perspirant is easier to apply. Simply select your ideal temperature setting and the car's thermostatic control will maintain it automatically.

With the luxury of air conditioning to

complement the Xantia's superb handling and smooth ride, you couldn't be more comfortable on the road this summer.

For day-long freshness and confidence just call 0800 262 262.



For an information pack return this coupon to: Citroën UK Limited, Dept. TIM708, Freepost, London N4 1BR, or phone free on 0800 262 262.

Mr/Mrs/Ms: _____ Initials: _____ Surname: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Tel: _____

Current vehicle: Make: _____ Model: _____ Reg No: _____

When do you intend to replace your car? Month: _____ Year: _____

Next car will be: (i) New Used (ii) Company Private (iii) Petrol Diesel (iv) Hatchback Estate MPV

CITROËN XANTIA

AIR CONDITIONED FROM £13,667*

CAR SHOWN XANTIA 1.6 TD SX WITH AIR CONDITIONING. ON THE ROAD PRICE £13,667. *EXCEPT 1.6 DIESEL/TURBO DIESEL BASE MODELS. 10% ON THE ROAD PRICE FOR XANTIA 1.6 LX WITH THE CHOICE OF EITHER AIR CONDITIONING OR ELECTRIC SUNROOF. ON THE ROAD PRICE INCLUDES VAT, NUMBER PLATES, DELIVERY AND SIX MONTHS ROAD FUND LICENCE. FOR EXPORT/TAX-FREE SALES CONTACT CITROËN BERKELEY SQUARE TEL 071 629 8515. PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.

مكتبة من الأصل

THE TIMES
World guide
Town
infam

Girl, 5, stu
disturb

By KATHRYN KAY

A GIRL aged five has nearly a hundred bees that disturbed a school bus. Matilda Nea was stung by thousands of bees as she rolled down a steep hill near her school at Hergest, Hereford and Worcester, and received 40 stings on her alone.

Her classmates at church Haddocks Primary School watched in horror as Matilda screamed to the side of the edge. Gail Walsh, 47, who was stung more than 100 times as she tried to rescue.

Ms Walsh, 47, said: "Her 'worst nightmare' was that her children were going to be morning rowing in the boat on the River Wye when they were allowed to roll down the slope as they were swimming. Matilda rolled over and was stung in the back.

"They flew up and surrounded her and I heard her

URGE

600 grams need
from poverty

There are 100 million people in the world who live in poverty. Help. But in this day and age, of 600 million people, 400 million are in desperate need.

Many of these people are destitute. Some are disabled, some are medical students, some are families. They can't afford to eat. And if we don't help them, for them, a single 600 gram could be the difference between life and death.

For just over £2 a week you can save a life.

By sponsoring a person, or helping him or her with essential items of clothing and more.

What's more, your sponsorship will help provide vital services such as communications.

More than 100 countries are involved in the scheme, helping to improve the lives of elderly people, disabled people, children and families.

If you would like to adopt a person, help save the life of a disabled person, or help save the life of a child, please contact us.

For details, call 0800 25

0800 25

World guide lists Eston, Teesside, alongside Taj Mahal but says: Wish you weren't here

Town fights back over infamy on the Internet

By PAUL WILKINSON

A SMALL town was startled by world fame after finding itself on an Internet travel section which also features the Taj Mahal and the Pyramids. But the surprise turned to anger yesterday when residents read the entry in the Knowhere Guide.

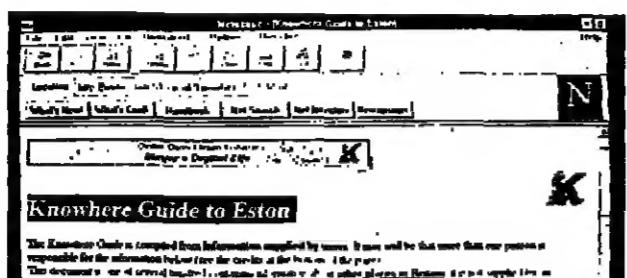
In one of the most dismissive, high-tech tourist entries since *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* summarised planet Earth as "mostly harmless", the worldwide web page for Eston, Teesside, advises potential visitors: "The only good thing about Eston is the No 263 bus, because it's a link to the outside world."

Instead of listing the imposing Eston Nab, a promontory of the Cleveland Hills jutting out above the area which holds one of the earliest Bronze Age sites in Britain, the piece prefers to mention the neighbouring ICI petrochemical site, sprawling over hundreds of acres at Wilton. It describes the plant on the south bank of the Tees as "the worst thing about Eston, mainly because the town is 'within smelling distance' of the works, described as a 'right stinking slag-heap'."

The guide also warns that although the town (population 16,000) has many public houses, "they are a little dingy and you will probably end up getting into a fight if you don't live in Eston/Redcar/



Life in the bus lane: 'The only good thing is the No 263 to the outside world' says the entry below



Middlesbrough, don't venture into any of the pubs if you want to come back out alive. With its high unemployment, this place attracts yobs (although it does have a small percentage of decent folk)."

A section on clubs mentions only the renovated North Ormesby Institute — "if you can get signed in" — where the beer is cheap. A section on famous citizens is blank.

The listing has not im-

pressed Brian Roberts, leader of the newly created Redcar and Cleveland authority, which includes Eston. A local resident for 53 years, he said: "It's ill-conceived and mischievous. The author does not know what he's talking about. The people are very friendly, the pubs are well run and won't stand for trouble, and ICI causes less air pollution than cars on the roads.

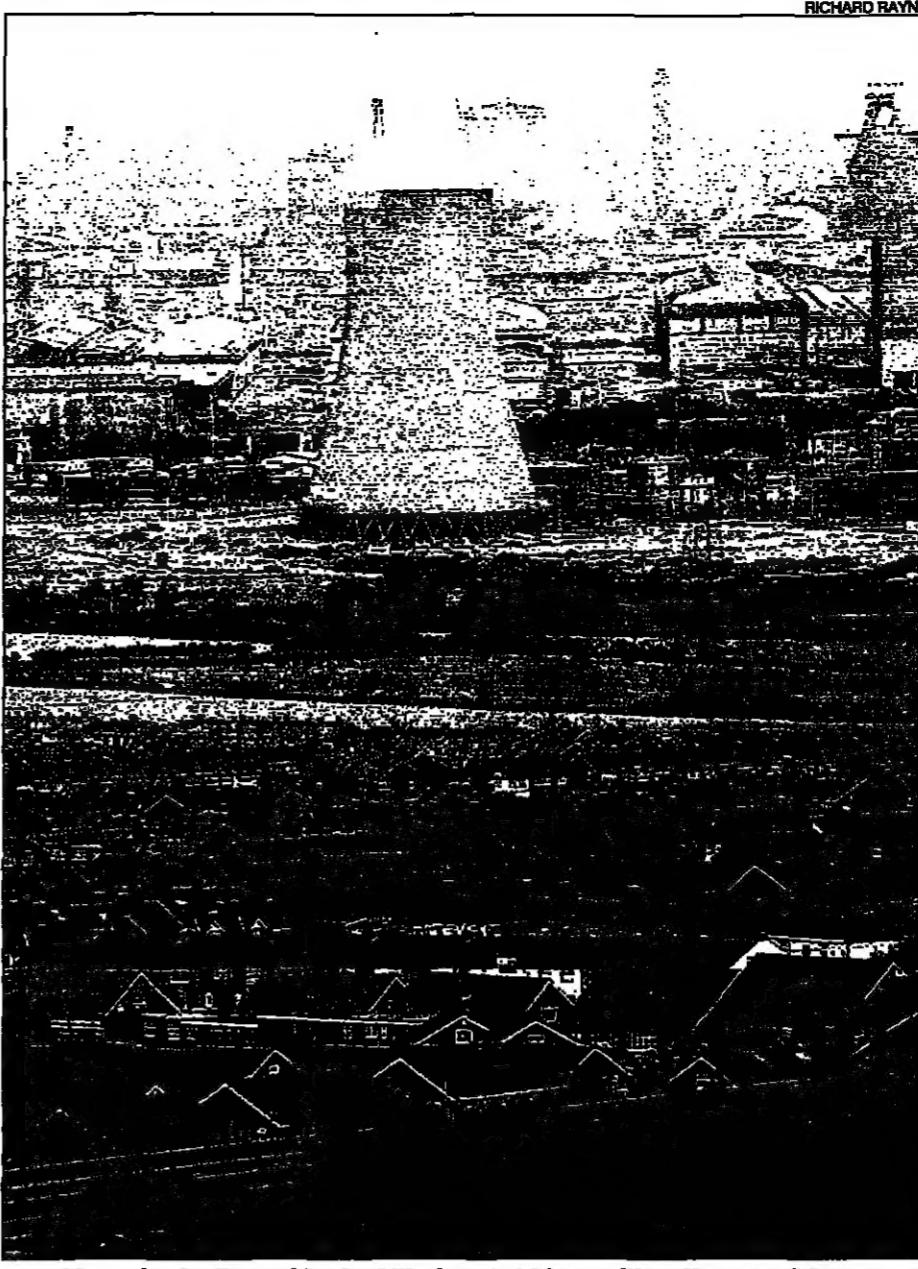
"Eston is a very nice place to live and is just a stone's throw from the North Yorkshire countryside and minutes from the Cleveland coastline."

David Walsh, a fellow councillor, was even more outspoken: "Whoever compiled this is an anorak nerd. Eston is a lovely place, a canny town filled with canny people."

Dawn Robson, landlady of the Miners Arms — which gets a mention — was also unimpressed by the anonymous entry. She said: "If I found it was one of my regulars, they would be barred. We have no trouble here and the people are the nicest you could meet."

Even ICI was upset. A spokesman at Wilton said: "Comments such as these are clearly borne out of ignorance of the very real improvements which have taken place in recent years. I am sure that the people of Teesside will be annoyed by these claims."

Eston was originally a Saxon settlement, based on iron ore mining in the Cleveland Hills. The first guide to the area 900 years ago, William the Conqueror's *Domesday Book*, described it as "a waste", but that was mostly because his nobles had put the region to the sword after a northern rebellion. Its industrial development began early in the last century when drift mines were opened to extract iron and alum. To access the Knowhere Guide enter: www.state51.co.uk/knowhere



Not quite the Pyramids: the ICI plant "within smelling distance of Eston"

Boy of 4 suffers for mushroom feast

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

A BOY of four suffered severe hallucinations and panic attacks after eating a crop of "magic" mushrooms in a field near his home.

Daniel Billington, of Stockport, Greater Manchester, imagined hordes of worms crawling over his body and flying around his head. Several days later, he still has panic attacks and picks imaginary worms out of his shoes.

His mother, Diane, said that Daniel was attracted to the crop because he enjoyed eating cooked mushrooms at home. He was taken to hospital and doctors diagnosed some kind of poison. It was only after Daniel pointed to wild mushrooms later that his mother realised what had happened.

Dr David Pegler, assistant keeper and head of mycology at Kew Gardens, said that of 4,500 wild species of mushrooms in Britain, only 50 were edible. "The boy probably ate a Liberty Cap, which contains the Class A drug psilocin. They look like small brown toadstools, with long slender stems around three inches long."

He said these mushrooms were prolific, particularly between June and September. "Parents must take great care, as summer is the dangerous time. While they are not usually fatal in themselves, they may leave after-effects and are bewildering for a small child."

Girl, 5, stung 90 times after disturbing nest of bees

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

A GIRL aged five was stung nearly a hundred times when she disturbed a nest of bees.

Matilda New was covered by thousands of bees as she rolled down a grassy bank near her school at Bredon, Hereford and Worcester. She received 40 stings on one leg alone.

Her classmates at Bredon Haddock's First School watched in horror as Matilda screamed to the river's edge. Gail Walsh, her teacher, was stung more than a dozen times as she went to her rescue.

Ms Walsh, 47, said it was her "worst nightmare". The children were spending the morning rowing in the school boat on the River Avon. Some were allowed to roll down the slope as they waited their turn. Matilda rolled over a hollow concealing the bees.

"They flew up and surrounded her and I heard her

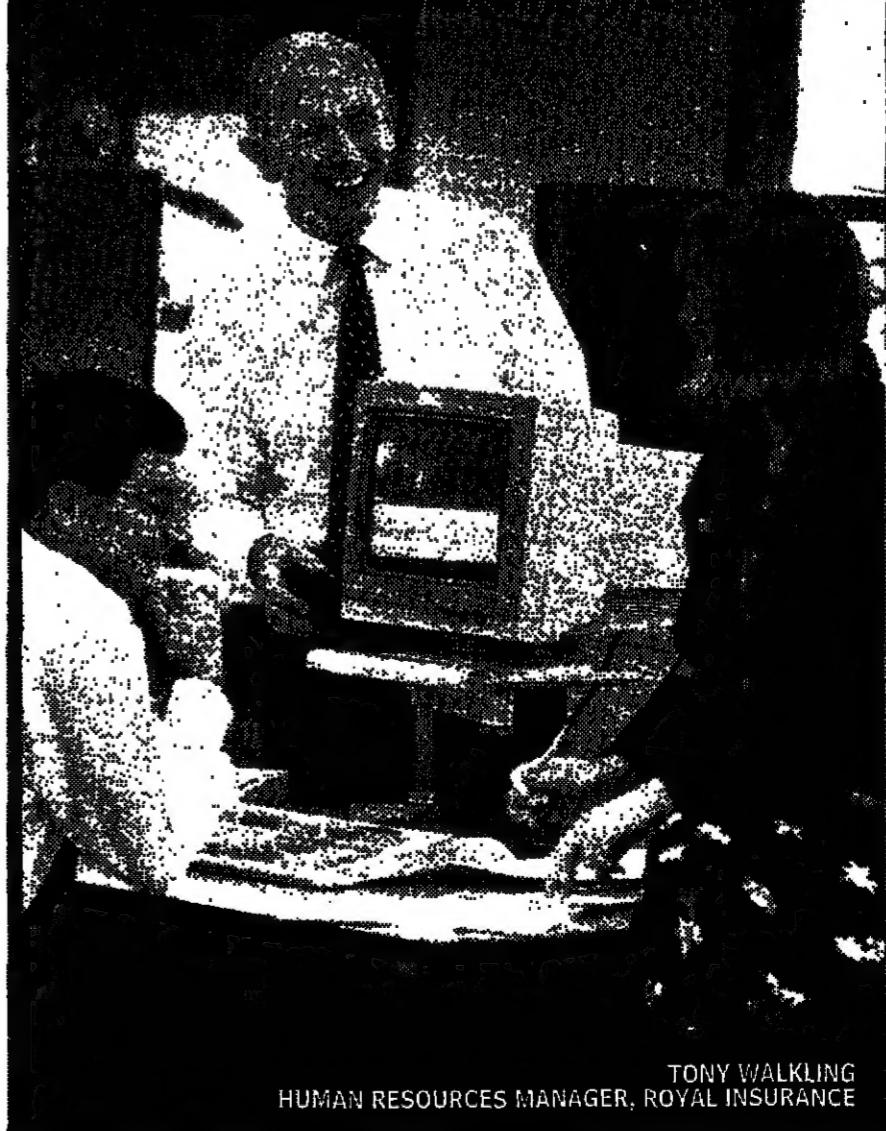


Matilda: she is lucky to be alive, say doctors

screaming as she jumped up. All I could see was that she was absolutely covered in black. She must have been absolutely terrified," Ms Walsh said.

After shouting at the other children to flee, she pulled Matilda to the water's edge and was able to stroke the

WHAT HELPED WIN THE MOTABILITY CONTRACT WAS OUR STAFF, NOT JUST THEIR SKILLS, BUT THEIR POSITIVE ATTITUDE



TONY WALKING
HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER, ROYAL INSURANCE

URGENT!

600 grans need to escape from poverty and disease

There are thousands of elderly people around the world, like Sadie pictured here, who need help. But in the last month alone we have heard of 600 who are in desperate need.

Many of these people are frail and destitute. Some are in urgent need of medical attention. Yet most have no families they can turn to for help. And if we don't find 600 sponsors for them — soon some of these grans could die.

For just over £1 a week, you can save a life.

By sponsoring an elderly person in need, you can provide him or her with the basic essentials of life, such as food, clothing and medicines.

What's more, your sponsorship will also support vital projects which will improve life for entire communities.

Most of all, just knowing that someone cares can make a world of difference to an elderly person in need.



MG lovers exceed list price for used cars

By DIANA THORP

EAGER buyers are paying thousands of pounds over the list price for secondhand models of the MGF to beat waiting lists for the sports car. Two motorists paid £2,500 extra for used versions of the car this week, the first new MG for more than 25 years, rather than wait for a new model.

More than 2,400 customers are awaiting delivery of a new MGF, and overseas demand is high. Dealers said yesterday that the popularity meant buyers would have to wait up to six months for delivery.

Clive Sutton, an MG dealer in Kensington, has sold his stock of new MGFs for this year and bought 14 used cars at auction last week. The secondhand cars went to dealers for up to 15 per cent more than the list price of new models, between £18,000 and £19,000. But Mr Sutton sold two of the cars, with 6,000 and 7,000 miles on the clock, for £20,950. He said: "Before we went to the auction we took some deposits from customers prepared to buy the cars subject to seeing them."

Alan Cole, editor of *MG's Guide*, the price directory, said that it was unprecedented for secondhand versions of a mainstream model to sell at more than the new price. Roger said the production of three other cars that will share the MGF's 1.8-litre engine had been postponed for a year so that production of the sports car could be increased.

TO DISCOVER MORE
ABOUT THE INVESTMENT
POTENTIAL ON
MERSSEY SIDE 0800 22 0151
TELEPHONE Email: merseyp@mail.cybase.co.uk

MERSSEY SIDE
A 'pool of talent

0800 25 15 25
Help the Aged
Adopt a Granny
Registered Charity No. 272708
If you would like to adopt a granny and help save the life of a vulnerable elderly person overseas, please send for details now by calling free on:
0800 25 15 25

Adopt a Granny, Help the Aged, FREEPOST, London EC1B 1JY.

Festival of speed
Car 96





HONDA
BUILT WITHOUT
COMPROMISE

THE HONDA HAWAII. GET ONE ON THE ROAD WITH THE 50/50 FINANCE DEAL.

The limited edition 3 door Civic from Honda. You can get on board one for just £10,495. The price includes delivery, 12 months' road tax and free comprehensive insurance for a year.

The car however includes quite a bit more. An invigorating 16 valve, 1.4 injection

CREDIT EXAMPLE	
Chris Hawell	
Total cash price*	£10,495.00
Deposit (50%)	£5,247.50
1 repayment (50%) after 12 months	£5,247.50
Total amount payable	£10,495.00

engine for example. Double wishbone suspension, front disc brakes and power

assisted steering are also provided to further increase your riding pleasure.

And to protect you in the event of a wipe-out, both driver and passenger airbags are built in, along with full side impact protection. The Hawaii comes decked out in a wicked Amethyst Pearl metallic coat and

matching body coloured bumpers.

To further entice you we've included a stereo radio cassette player, and to deter any over-zealous admirers the car has remote central locking and an ECU engine immobiliser, all included in the price.

Which, by the way, can be paid in two

instalments, by taking advantage of our interest free 50/50 finance offer.

It means you need only pay a deposit of 50% on purchase, then the balance in 12 months time. For more information, or to arrange a test ride call 0345 159 159.

THE HONDA HAWAII. AWESOME. MAN.

Honda Civic Hawaii available whilst stocks last. *Total cash price includes £450.00 charge for delivery and number plates and £140.00 for 12 months' road fund licence. Offer applies to sales of all Honda Civic Hawaii models registered between 01/06/96 and 31/08/96 subject to availability. Credit available only to persons over 18 and subject to status. Written quotations available from Chartered Trust plc, Dept CCO, 24-26 Newport Road, Cardiff CF2 1SR. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. The insurance cover is available to persons over 21 and subject to all drivers meeting qualifying criteria. Confirmation of insurance acceptance is available from Houndsure Insurance on 0164 533300/548222.



It's England's biggest match for six years. and The Sunday Times Sports team is at Wembley in force to bring you the best, in-depth coverage, with Joe Lovejoy, Hugh McIlvanney and analysis of each player's performance, with graphics and pictures

THE SUNDAY TIMES tomorrow

Homebuyers strike a bargain as the market takes off

BY RACHEL KELLY, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE upturn in the housing market was given a further lift yesterday by the sale of 35 homes in two hours. Potential buyers had queued for four days to stake a claim to one of the bungalows on the former RAF base at Sculthorpe in Norfolk.

The lucky few who managed to secure a property agreed that they had snapped up the bargain of a lifetime. The reason for all the interest is that they are cheap. They represent very good value for money," Andrea Wilson, of the estate agents William H. Brown, said.

The new owners, mostly young first-time buyers, paid

from £22,000 to £27,000 for the ex-servicemen's quarters on a first-come-first-served basis.

The concrete houses were built in the 1950s and sold off when RAF Sculthorpe, which was occupied by American forces, was decommissioned in 1992. They were bought by Brunswick Homes, which gave them a facelift and planted thousands of trees on the 27-acre site.

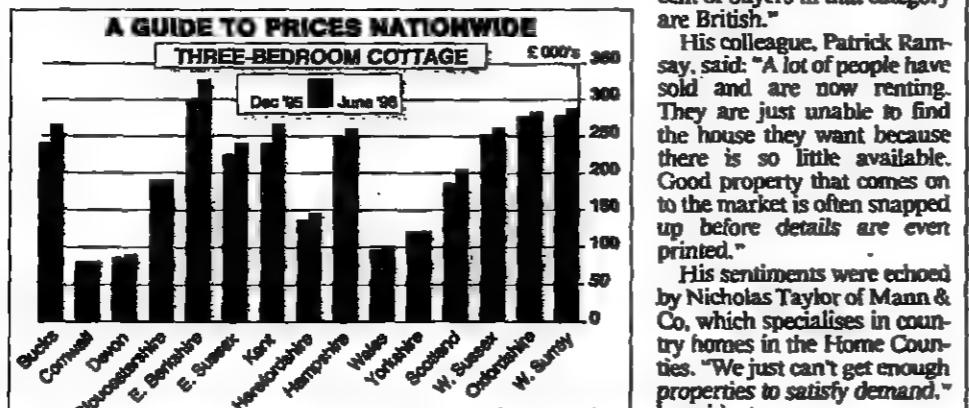
Similar bargains are becoming harder to find. New figures show that prices of country houses and cottages have risen by 5 per cent over the past six months across Britain and by 12 per cent in the South East. The survey, by

Knight Frank, shows an increase in the number of buyers in the market as well as a fall in the supply of properties. It follows a survey by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors that found 70 per cent of agents in London and the Home Counties were reporting an upward trend in prices.

The increase is being fuelled by tax cuts, rising wages and falling mortgage rates, according to Rupert Sweeting of Knight Frank. He identified the return of the British buyer in the £1 million bracket. "A year ago, 60 per cent of houses over £1 million went to international buyers. Now 65 per cent of buyers in that category are British."

His colleague, Patrick Ramsay, said: "A lot of people have sold and are now renting. They are just unable to find the house they want because there is so little available. Good property that comes on to the market is often snapped up before details are even printed."

His sentiments were echoed by Nicholas Taylor of Maan & Co, which specialises in country homes in the Home Counties. "We just can't get enough properties to satisfy demand," he said.



Unouched by the years: Hedley, left, and Robert Wilding today and with vintage vehicles in the 1970s



Battle to save the garage stalled in the vintage years of motoring

BY ROBIN YOUNG

VINTAGE car enthusiasts are rallying to prevent bureaucrats from trying to close the petrol station that time forgot.

Since 1922 the Wilding family has sold fuel on a sleepy C road in the Herefordshire countryside. Generations of locals have pulled into the West End Garage at Tinternstone, on the Michaelchurch Escley to Vowchurch road in the Golden Valley, where they know they will be greeted with personal service from the owner, Hedley Wilding, a 75-year-old great-grandfather, or his son, Robert, 48.

The petrol station still sells fuel by the gallon, measured on a clockface dial on an upright pump. West End has become a mecca for vintage car enthusiasts, keen to have their cars photographed filling up at a garage unchanged since

1952. The red-brick cottage behind the green petrol pump has an enamelled metal sign advertising "Raleigh — the All-Steel Bicycle". That was put up in 1937 to celebrate Raleigh's jubilee.

Modern fuels such as unleaded petrol and diesel have never been sold, and currently only four-star is available, at £2.98 a gallon, the equivalent of 55p a litre. Plaques sit on top of the single petrol pump still in use. Its partner, which used to sell three-star mixture, is already out of commission, and the survivor will soon join it if Hereford and Worcester fire service gets its way. Fire prevention officers say the pump breaches safety standards.

Hedley Wilding said yesterday: "These people are a bloody nuisance. We have been selling petrol here since 1922 and have never had a fire or an accident. Now they want to close us

down, but we will not go down without a fight."

The fire service opposed the renewal of the garage's licence because it is in breach of guidelines which say pumps should be more than 4.25 metres from a public highway. But the Wildings say the guidelines are not mandatory and are appealing against the move. A hearing will take place on July 3.

A spokesman for the county council said: "It is a situation where there is a risk to the public and the fire service have had to take action."

But almost 1,000 signatures have been collected on a petition to save the garage. Roger Collings, of nearby Thruxton, a past president of the Vintage Sports Car Club, said: "You get excellent service there, and you can knock Hedley up at any time of day or night and get petrol when you need it."

Currys

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST ELECTRICAL RETAILER'S SALE

PHONES
SAVE UP TO 50%

SAISHO
EXTRAORDINARY Telephone
■ Illuminated dial
■ Last number recall
■ White button
Model 251. Was £14.99.
SALE PRICE £9.99
SAVE £5

SAISHO 2 PIECE PHONE
■ Last number recall.
■ Ring volume control.
Model LA101. Was £24.99.
SALE PRICE £12.49
HALF PRICE £14.99
SAVE £2.50

CORDLESS PHONES FROM UNDER £55

BETACOM Cordless Phone
■ Out of range indicator.
■ Paging facility.
■ Last number recall.
Model DISCOVERY. Was £59.99.
SALE PRICE £44.99
SAVE £15

BETACOM Cordless Phone
■ Intercom facility.
■ 100 metre range. Model
DISCOVERY. Was £59.99.
SALE PRICE £44.99
SAVE £15

BETACOM Cordless Phone
■ Intercom facility.
■ 100 metre range. Model
DISCOVERY. Was £59.99.
SALE PRICE £44.99
SAVE £15

TELEPHONE ANSWERING MACHINES
SAVE UP TO £50

AUDIOLINE DIGITAL
TELEPHONE ANSWERING MACHINE
Model 905. Was £19.99.
SONY TELEPHONE AND
DIGITAL ANSWERING
MACHINE. Was £19.99.
HURRY — WHILE STOCKS LAST
BETACOM VOICE ACTIVATED ANSWER MACHINE
■ Remote access. ■ Call screening.
■ Last number recall.
■ Last number dial.
■ Last number redial.
Model 900. Was £29.99.
SALE PRICE £19.99
SAVE £10

BETACOM Remote Access Answerphone
■ One button operation.
■ Date/time stamp.
■ Call screening.
Model SOLO PLUS. Was £29.99.
SALE PRICE £29.99
SAVE £10

ALL THIS FROM ORANGE

BILLING BY THE SECOND
You only pay for what you use.

LATEST DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY
Digital technology means clearer calls and billing by the second, from one of the UK's fastest growing networks.

INCLUSIVE TALK TIME
Each tariff contains inclusive talk time FREE.

ORANGE TARIFFS
From only £17.62 (inc VAT) per month.

HELPFUL ADVICE
Currys' friendly staff will give you all the expert advice you need.

FREE SERVICES
CALL DIVERT • CALL BARRING • CALL HOLD • CALL WAITING • CALLER IDENTITY

PLUS
24 hour replacement, 14 day money back guarantee and free switching between talk plans.

ORANGE NOW COVERS 90% OF GREAT BRITAIN'S POPULATION AND IS STILL GROWING.

ORANGE MOBILES

FROM UNDER £30

PLUS ONE MONTHS FREE LINE RENTAL ON ALL ORANGE MOBILES

ORANGE Motorola Mobile Phone
■ Displays number of caller.
■ Up to 60 minutes talk time/12 hours standby time.
■ 180 name/number memory.
Model MR20 FLARE. Was £49.99.

ORANGE Motorola Mobile Phone
■ Displays number of caller.
■ Up to 60 minutes talk time/12 hours standby time.
■ 180 name/number memory.
Model MR20 FLARE. Was £49.99.

SALE PRICE £29.99*
SAVE £20

ORANGE Motorola Mobile Phone
■ Displays number of caller.
■ Up to 60 minutes talk time/12 hours standby time.
■ 180 name/number memory.
Model MR20 FLARE. Was £49.99.

ORANGE Nokia Mobile Phone
■ Up to 170 name/number memory (inc. SIM card memory). ■ Clear LCD display of number dialed. ■ Up to 60 minutes talk time/12 hours standby time.
■ Call divert, call barring, call hold, call waiting, call redial, call back, call back hold, call back redial.
Model NOKIA. Was £129.99.

CURRY'S PRICE £29.99*
ORANGE Nokia Mobile Phone
■ Up to 170 name/number memory (inc. SIM card memory). ■ Clear LCD display of number dialed. ■ Up to 60 minutes talk time/12 hours standby time.
■ Call divert, call barring, call hold, call waiting, call redial, call back, call back hold, call back redial.
Model NOKIA. Was £129.99.

CURRY'S PRICE £99.99*
ORANGE Nokia Mobile Phone
■ Up to 170 name/number memory (inc. SIM card memory). ■ Clear LCD display of number dialed. ■ Up to 60 minutes talk time/12 hours standby time.
■ Call divert, call barring, call hold, call waiting, call redial, call back, call back hold, call back redial.
Model NOKIA. Was £129.99.

LOWEST GUARANTEED PRICES

Earl sells land to pay death duties

BY EMMA WILKINS

THE Earl of Stradbrooke is to sell a third of the family estate to raise £3 million to pay death duties owing since he inherited the title 13 years ago.

Lord Stradbrooke, 59, who lives in Australia with his 15 children and a large herd of Aberdeen Angus, will dispose of 1,050 acres, three farmhouses and sporting rights to 800 acres at Henham, Suffolk.

The 6th Earl, who likes to be known as Keith, was summoned from the Outback in 1983 to take over the estate when his father, the 5th Earl, died at the age of 76 within days of inheriting the title from an elder brother, the 80-year-old 4th Earl. He will keep the 2,500-acre Henham Park estate, designed by Repton.

"I have decided to sell because we've still got to pay the 1983 death duties from when my uncle and father died," he said from his 60,000-acre farm near Darlington, Victoria. "The Government in England does like to go after death duties. I hope we would make about £3 million." Lord

Stradbrooke was educated at Harrow and emigrated to Australia aged 19. His Who's Who entry lists his recreations as "making babies". He said he was happy to continue living in Australia with his wife, Roseanna, a former head girl of Sherborne.

"I've got 15 children from

two marriages and we all get along very well. I haven't been to England for three years and I've got no plans to leave Australia. "We're very busy with the farm here. Fortunately, 'mad cow' disease hasn't reached us yet," he added.

The Rous family, baronets since the 17th century and earls since 1821, were dismayed in 1988 when Lord Stradbrooke sold off eight generations of family silver. Further plans to convert the estate to a nudist camp were quietly dropped after local opposition.

The arable land, mainly in the parishes of Wangford, Uggishall and Sotherton, is to be sold as a whole or in 21 lots by informal tender. The agent is Bidwells.

THE TIMES

Subscriptions

The Times will match any subscription offer you receive from other daily national newspapers.

For further details please call us FREE on the following number:

FREEPHONE
0800 120 130
Lines open 7 days from 8am to 6pm

Offer available in the UK only

THE TIMES

Swindon

Jaile

mus

THE TIMES

Swindon

Jaile

Swindler who loved luxury ordered to forfeit his assets after biggest cross-Channel smuggling case

Jailed beer bootlegger must lose £3m fortune

By PETER FOSTER

THE mastermind of the biggest cross-Channel bootlegging operation, which cost the Inland Revenue £5 million in lost VAT and duty, was jailed for six years yesterday and ordered to surrender his riches.

Ellis Martin, 47, who smuggled nearly nine million cans of extra-strong lager, will serve a further four years in jail if he does not repay the £3.3 million he is estimated to have made from the contraband operation.

He was sentenced to six years and ten months by the Old Bailey yesterday, after being convicted in April on five charges of evading duty and VAT. Making the order for confiscation of assets, Judge Pearlman said she did not accept Martin's claim that he had only £1.3 million in realisable assets.

The father of two, who used a front company and forged paperwork to flood the country with super-strength lager,



Ellis Martin was captured by Operation Jeroboam. His girlfriend, Julie Court, was acquitted



Ellis Martin was captured by Operation Jeroboam. His girlfriend, Julie Court, was acquitted

had a string of luxury cars and properties. At his trial at Southwark Crown Court the jury was told that he had paid £100,000 in cash for two Mercedes sports cars and £1 million for five properties including his house in Southgate, north London.

Other properties, including a wine bar, two houses which

he let and a warehouse, were used to launder the large sums Martin made from selling the beer to cash-and-carry outlets. He was caught by a joint undercover operation by English and French police and Customs and Excise investigators. They worked under the name Operation Jeroboam.

During the 11-week trial,



Part of Martin's haul of nine million cans of extra-strength lager, which cost the Inland Revenue £5 million

estimated to have cost the taxpayer £2 million, the court was told that Martin ran an import and export company called E.A. Martin & Co Ltd, based in Dagenham, east London. Describing himself as a commodity broker, Martin specialised in buying soft drinks and beers from abroad and selling them in the home market. A front company was set up in Calais to create thousands of pages of bogus documentation to avoid payment of British import duty, which is ten times that of France. By the time of his arrest in June 1994, 200 lorry loads of beer had been smuggled.

James White, 49, a manager of a bonded warehouse in Kent, pretended that the beer was destined for his warehouse when in reality it was to be sold to cash-and-carries.

Last month White, of High Halstow, Kent, was jailed for four years for his part in what

Judge Pearlman called a "massive" fraud. He had

£20,000 confiscated and was banned from being a company director for seven years.

Martin carried out the main

beer fraud in 1993-94 while he was on bail awaiting sentence for an earlier offence of avoiding £180,000 of VAT and excise duty on soft drinks and beer. For that offence he was given a 240-hour community service order and a £125,000 confiscation order.

Sentencing Martin yesterday, who was banned from being a company director for seven years.

Martin's girlfriend and personal assistant, Julie Court, 27, of Palmers Green, north London, was cleared at an earlier hearing of charges relating to the preparation of the bogus paperwork.

A Customs and Excise spokesman said afterwards that Martin's trial had been the largest "bootlegging" case brought to court. Martin's extravagant tastes included eating at top restaurants and buying Savile Row suits. "He enjoyed the good life. He was the type of man who lived life to the full," the spokesman said.

Jumbo jet passengers stranded in America

By HARVEY ELLIOTT

MORE than 300 Virgin Atlantic passengers were stranded in San Francisco for more than 48 hours after their Boeing 747 twice developed technical faults.

Flight VS20 had just taken off on Wednesday evening with 360 passengers on board to fly to Heathrow when the pilot reported a problem with the air conditioning and said that it would have to return to San Francisco. By the time the fault had been repaired the crew had exceeded their permitted working hours and Virgin had no option but to check passengers into an hotel.

Virgin found room for 27 business-class passengers on the following day's flight and a few more were switched to rival airlines. Some 320 passengers, however, were stranded.

As the repaired jet was taxiing to the runway that afternoon it suffered a second fault, this time in an engine, and the pilot again had to return to the gate and let off the passengers. They were again put up in an hotel.

Efforts by Virgin Atlantic staff to charter another aircraft in America proved fruitless. Yesterday they were searching for an aircraft in Europe as passengers who had been due in Heathrow on Thursday were still waiting.

A Virgin spokesman said last night: "We are very sorry indeed about this series of unfortunate delays. But the safety of our passengers is an absolute priority, so we had no option but to put them up in the best possible accommodation we could find while we tried to sort things out."

Travel, Weekend, pages 17-23

NEWSBRIEF

Remand in 29-year-old murder

A man accused of murdering a former Grenadier Guardsman 29 years ago was remanded in custody by Horseshoe Road magistrates in London yesterday. Arthur Jackson, 60, who was extradited from America, was charged with murdering Anthony Fletcher, 33, in Chelsea in 1967, with wounding a bank employee and with three armed robberies.

Brothel inquiry

The independent inquiry into a claim that police officers used the home of the serial killer Frederick West as a brothel has been completed. The report of the investigation by a team from West Mercia Police is with the Police Complaints Authority.

Police chief

The new Chief Constable of the West Midlands force is to be Edward Crew, presently in charge at Northamptonshire. Mr Crew, 50, who is married with two adult children, will take over next month from Sir Ron Hadfield, who is to retire.

Quango ads

The National Heritage Department is to advertise for the first time for people to serve on its quangos. Virgin's Bottony said in a Commons written reply that she had commissioned advertisements in *The Sunday Times* this weekend.

Sunblock recall

Thousands of bottles of Sun E45 sunblock lotions are being recalled after some products were found to be faulty and others were wrongly packaged. The brand is made by a company owned by Boots but is on sale elsewhere.

Saved by skates

A boy was saved from death when he was electrocuted while playing near a railway line because of his new roller skates, doctors said. The rubber wheels provided insulation when Kristoffer Cavan, 12, of Dumbarton, Strathclyde, was hit by 25,000 volts.

POLAND
£129
NO DEPOSIT
10 Day Holidays with Half Board to
ZAMPAKETTE THE BEAUTIFUL TROPICAL
MILLENIUM
0121 711 4821

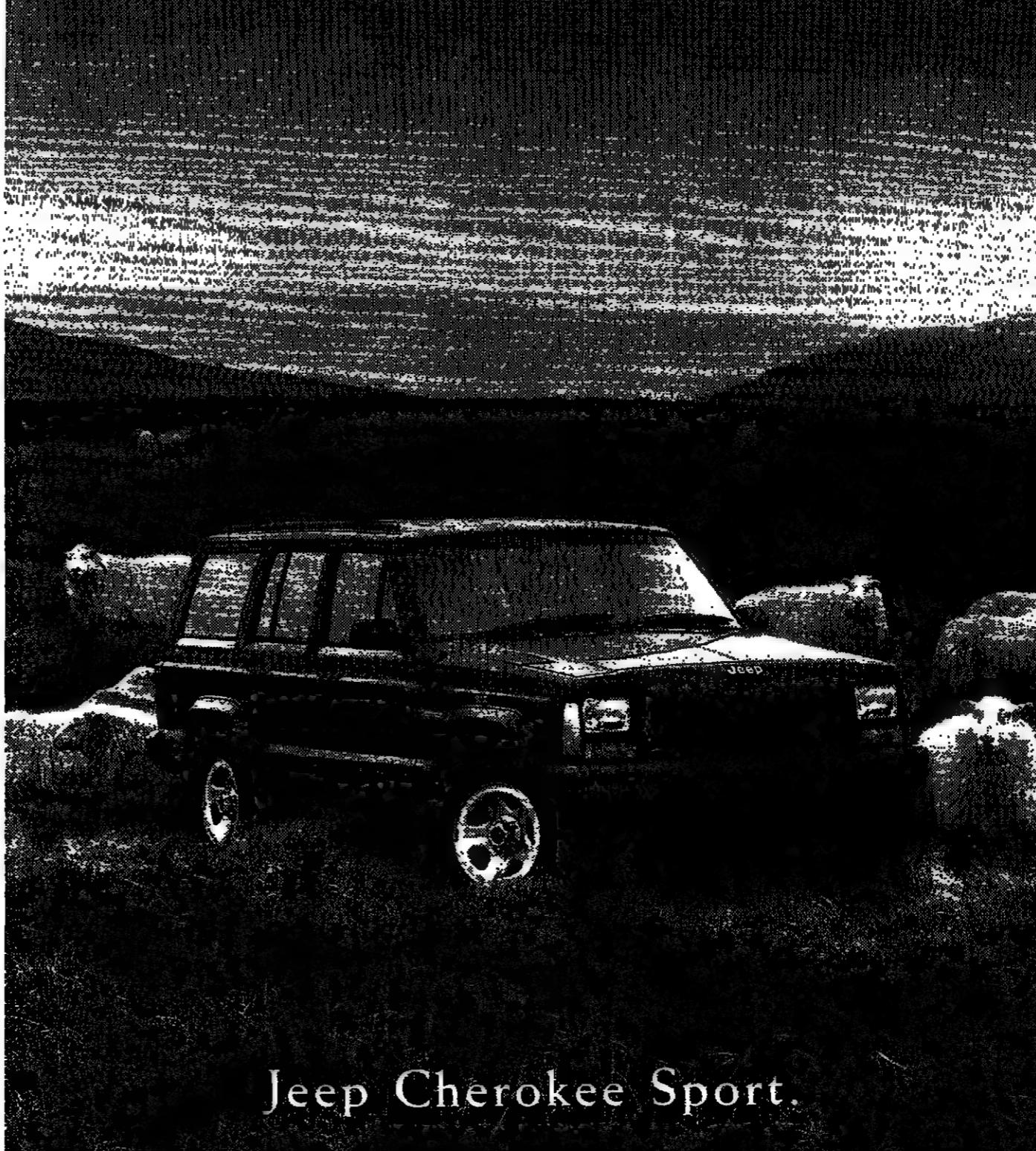
Do you suffer from back pain?

Are you one of the millions of people who suffer from back pain? Are your everyday activities often restricted because of it? Help is now at hand. Endorsed by the National Back Pain Association, *The Which? Guide to Managing Back Trouble* is a straightforward guide to coping with pain, preventing its recurrence and minimising the risk of strain. And, with its emphasis on prevention, it shows how you can keep your back healthy, too. Author Dr Harry Brown looks at:

- the structure of the spine
- common causes of back pain
- what to do when pain strikes
- treatment options provided by complementary therapists such as chiropractors.

CHRYSLER INTERNATIONAL

NOT one of the herd.



Jeep Cherokee Sport.

Jeep
The American Legend.

THE JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT is a bit of an individual. The 4.0 and 2.5 litre petrol or 2.5 litre turbo diesel engines all deliver strong mid-range acceleration and outstanding pulling power with the 4.0 litre petrol taking you from 0-60 in 9.5 seconds and on to 112 mph where permissible.

And when you want to stray off the beaten track, Jeep's sophisticated shift-on-the-fly facility means you can switch from

2 to 4-wheel drive on the move. There's nothing average about the specification either. Electric windows, power steering, side impact protection guards and a driver's air bag are standard on all models. ABS and automatic transmission are standard on the 4.0 litre petrol.

IN FACT, the only average thing about the Jeep Cherokee Sport is the price. It's available from £17,550 (including a 3 year warranty).*

MR/MRS/MISS/MS (initials) SURNAME ADDRESS
CURRENT CAR MAKE MODEL POSTCODE PHONE HOME PHONE BUSINESS
INTENDED REPLACEMENT DATE 071696

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL FREE ON 0800 616159 OR SEND COUPON TO JEEP INFORMATION SERVICE, FREEPOST 1048, SANDWICH, KENT CT13 9BR.

*3 YEARS OR 60,000 MILES PRICES QUOTED ARE ON THE ROAD, INCLUDE VAT, DELIVERY AND NUMBER PLATES, AND ONE YEARS ROAD FUND LICENCE. PRICES AND SPECIFICATIONS ARE CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.

Clinton usurps Reagan's Teflon crown to defy Republican mud-slinging

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER
IN WASHINGTON

BILL CLINTON is usurping the title "Teflon President" from Ronald Reagan. New opinion polls suggest that very little of the mud thrown at Mr Clinton in the past two weeks has stuck. He maintains a commanding national lead over Bob Dole, his Republican presidential challenger, and also remains far ahead in key electoral states.

Indeed, his approval rating has actually risen.

The figures baffle political experts. Stephen Hess, of the Brookings Institution, believes they reveal that voters consider the economy more important than the President's reputation. Ross Baker, of Rutgers University, suggests that character cuts little ice because voters knew Mr Clinton was no saint when they elected him.

Yesterday's Gallup poll for CNN

and USA Today showed that voters overwhelmingly consider Mr Dole to be more honest and moral than Mr Clinton, with 57 per cent believing that the White House improperly acquired FBI files on Republican officials. The same number believe Hillary Clinton is guilty of a Whitewater cover-up.

But the poll also gives Mr Clinton a 19-point lead over Mr Dole, just one point down on a poll in *The Washington Post* on Thurs-

day. His approval rating has risen five points since May to a record 58 per cent, and respondents consider him more in tune with their needs and values than is Mr Dole.

The latest state polls are just as dispiriting for Mr Dole, who enjoyed a brief "bounce" after resigning from the Senate on June 11. Mr Clinton enjoys leads of 33 points in New York, 23 in California and 13 in Florida. He has even pulled level with Mr Dole in Texas,

which has voted Republican in four consecutive presidential elections.

A Dole spokesman said the public had yet to absorb the latest scandals besetting the White House. But a Clinton campaign spokesman countered that voters realised the President was working for the national good despite Republican attacks. The scandals, perversely, have stolen the lime-light from Mr Dole.

Ross Perot's new Reform Party

yesterday compounded Mr Dole's problems by announcing convention plans that seem designed to divert media attention from the Republican convention. The Reform Party convention will open in Long Beach, California, on August 11, a day before the Republican event 120 miles away in San Diego.

After a day of speeches to nominate its presidential candidates, the Reform Party's convention will recess while members vote electronically or by mail. It will reconvene a week later in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, to announce the result.

Perot spokesmen deny that they are trying to upset the Republicans. They say the dates are mandated by state deadlines for submitting the names of nominees. So far only Mr Perot and Richard Lamm, Colorado's former Governor, have emerged as possible Reform Party contenders.

'Three-strikes' law ruled illegal by California court

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

IN A unanimous decision, the California Supreme Court in San Francisco has ruled that the "three-strikes-and-you're-out" law is unconstitutional and said judges need no longer refer to previous convictions when sentencing.

The retroactive decision is likely to cause turmoil in the state's courts. An estimated 16,000 Californians sentenced in the past two years can now appeal.

Under the "three-strikes" legislation passed by California in 1994, criminals convicted for a second time have had sentences doubled. More dramatically, anyone with two serious or violent convictions has been jailed for 25 years to life for any third offence unless the prosecution approved a lesser sentence.

Yesterday's decision gave judges a choice as to whether to implement "three strikes" and provoked a barrage of criticism in the Golden State from leading Republicans and victims' relatives, who called on the electorate to vent its anger at the mainly Republican court.

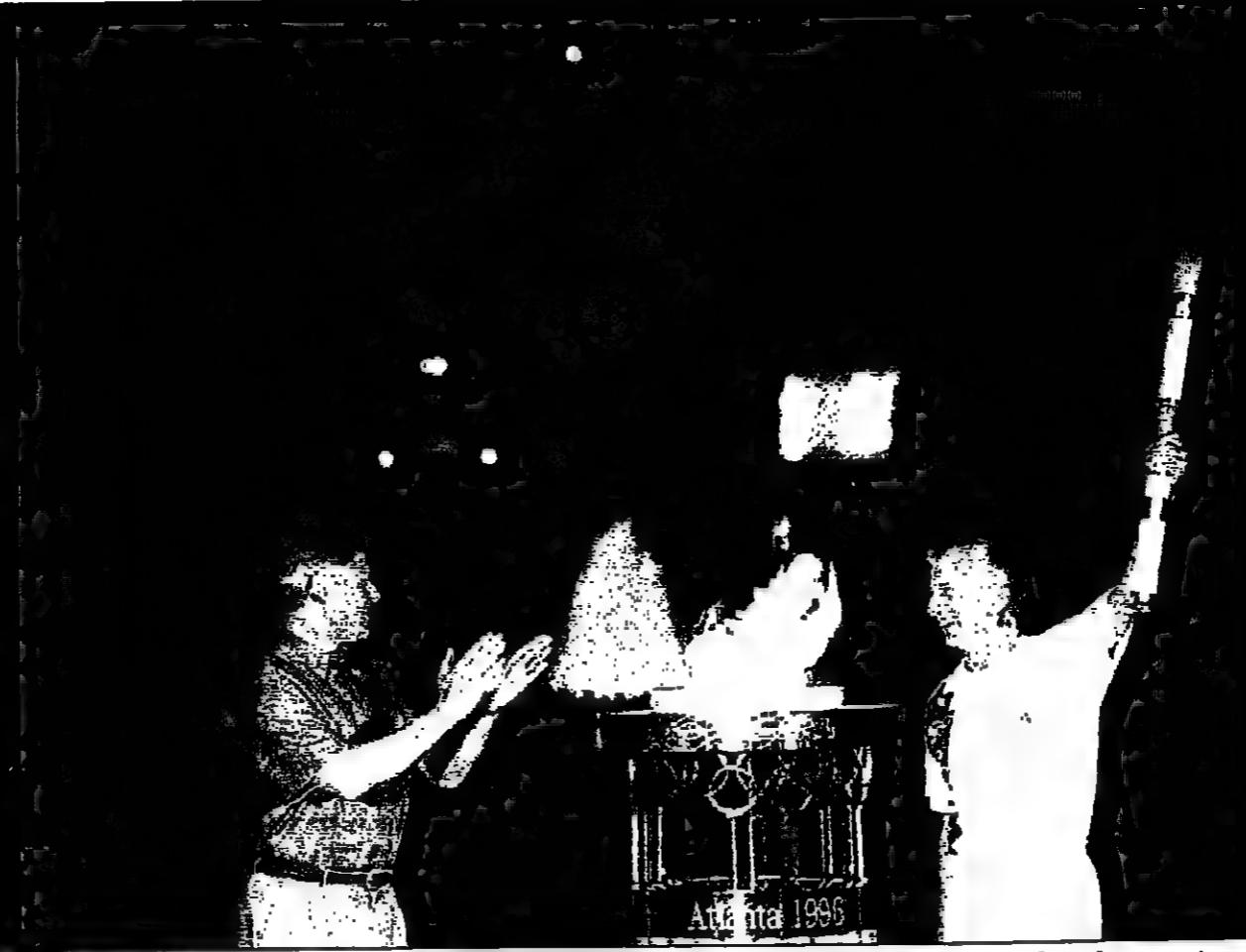
Supporters of "three strikes" believe it has cut the state's crime rate and they accuse the court of protecting its own turf rather than the population at large. Pete Wilson, the Repub-

lican Governor, said the ruling, written by one of his own appointees, was "potentially dangerous to public safety". He added: "We cannot tolerate a situation which permits judges who are philosophically unsympathetic or politically disinclined to 'three strikes' to reduce the strong sentences that the voters intended to impose on habitual criminals."

He promised to help to pass amendments to restore a tougher sentencing mandate. The court's decision derived from a San Diego case in which Jesus Romero, a repeat offender, was charged with cocaine possession. When a superior court judge attempted to drop Romero's previous convictions so that he could

Move to ban chain gangs

MONTGOMERY: A proposed legal settlement between jail inmates, prison officials and Bob James, the Republican Governor of Alabama, would ban chain gangs, reintroduced in the state last year, a plaintiff's attorney said. A US magistrate must approve the deal. (Reuters)



President Clinton applauds as the Olympic flame is lit on the White House lawn: hours later it was out

President's Olympic flame a wash-out

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

WAS it an omen? The Olympic flame spent the night on the South Lawn of the White House — and was extinguished by a rainstorm.

President Clinton had welcomed the torch to the executive mansion at 10pm on Thursday and helped to light

a mini-cauldron that was to have burned through the night. But barely had the crowds departed than the skies opened. This was the third time it had gone out since it left Los Angeles 57 days ago for a 15,000-mile odyssey through 42 states that will end in Atlanta's Olympic stadium on July 19. It was

extinguished once in Washington State when the cyclist who was carrying it fell off, and again on the great plains when a Pony Express rider's stirrup broke. Fortunately, the presidential-sized motorcade escorting the flame across America carries four separate "mother flames" which are guarded by a team of 50

Georgia state troopers, and is secured each night in a hotel room.

Mr Clinton, who hopes the Olympics will boost him as much as the 1984 Games helped President Reagan, hosted another elaborate South Lawn ceremony yesterday morning to send the flame on its way.

Renewing your home insurance in June or July?

Switch your buildings insurance from your mortgage lender and we'll give you £25 off your 1st year's premium. What's more, if you take out contents insurance with Prudential at the same time, you will receive a 15% discount, plus there's a further 20% off your buildings and contents premium if you're aged 50 or over.

UP TO
£25 OFF
1st year's buildings
premiums

UP TO
35% OFF
Home contents
premiums

Find out how much you could save. Call now for a free quote. Plus a free home security video.

Call Prudential on 0800 300 300

Lines are open 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and from 10am to 2pm weekends.

For your protection, calls will be recorded. We may not be able to provide a quote in some cases.

GROUP HEAD OFFICE: Prudential Corporation plc 142 Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2HJ. Please quote reference GAC 345.

PRUDENTIAL

THE TIMES Subscriptions

The Times will match any subscription offer you receive from other daily national newspapers.

For further details please call us FREE on the following number:

FREEPHONE
0800 120 130

Lines open 7 days from 8am to 6pm

Offer available in the UK only

You'll run out of words before it runs out of power.

NOKIA

NEW GSM MODEL 1610.

- ◆ Up to 100 hrs standby-time
- ◆ Up to 3.5 hrs talk-time
- ◆ 45 name/number memory
- ◆ stored on SIM
- ◆ Fast recharge - 55 mins
- ◆ 5 selectable ring tones
- ◆ Weight 250g



What Cellphone

**FREE 50 MINUTES
PER MONTH
IN JUNE, JULY & AUGUST**

- NEW GENERATION DIGITAL NOKIA replaces the proven 2010 model.
- ONE SECOND BILLING - you only pay for the airtime you use.
- MORE POWER - up to 100 hours standby-time, up to 3.5 hours talk-time.
- BEST COVERAGE - with digital call clarity and security.
- FREE ACCESSORIES - in-car adaptor and leather case together worth over £50.

**LIMITED OFFER
£9.99
INC. VAT**

GUARANTEED PEACE OF MIND: Your phone is covered by our 14 day no quibble money back guarantee.

Cellphones
direct

VODAFONE PERSONALWORLD

Connection	£35.25 (£30 + VAT)
Roaming Total	£17.63 (£15 + VAT)
Roam Home Calls £10.00	35.25p per min (30p + VAT)
Roam Away Calls £10.00	11.75p per min (10p + VAT)

PersonalWorld peak times are 8.00-10.00 Mon to Fri. Mandatory roaming calling will be charged at £17.63 per minute. Line rental, roaming and roaming calls are advanced and you will be charged for roaming to your personal credit account or Delta card. Calls charged in 1 second units.

ORDER NOW WITH YOUR CREDIT CARD DETAILS FOR FREE DELIVERY IN 4 WORKING DAYS

FREEPHONE 0500 000 888

CREDIT CARD ORDERING HOTLINE: WEEKDAYS 9AM-5PM, SATURDAYS 9AM-1PM, SUNDAYS 12PM-5PM

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CREDIT CARD AND THIS ADVERTISEMENT HANDY WHEN YOU CALL
AND QUOTE REF: 4000 (SORRY WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT SWITCH CARDS)

Offer subject to status and a standard airtime contract for each phone with Cellphones Direct Ltd, 185 Lower Richmond Road, Richmond-upon-Thames TW9 1JL. Full written details and terms and conditions of this offer are available on request. © Copyright, Registered No. 299222.

For more information on the Daihatsu Fourtrak call free on 0800 521 700, or send this coupon to Daihatsu Information Services, FREEPOST 506, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BR.

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ 122/6

POSTCODE _____ TEL _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____ TICK IF UNDER 18 ☐ CURRENT VEHICLE _____

MODEL _____ YEAR _____

DAIHATSU FOURTRAK

If you see a mechanic under a Daihatsu Fourtrak, call an ambulance.

The Daihatsu Fourtrak. Reliable enough to carry a three year unlimited mileage warranty. Dependable enough to be rated Top 4x4 in Top Gear's 1996 Customer Satisfaction Survey. Yet reasonable enough to start at just £14,497 on the road. Great news for everyone except mechanics. For more details call 0800 521 700.

NO-NONSENSE VEHICLES FROM JAPAN

PRICE CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS INCLUDES VAT, DELIVERY, NUMBER PLATES (£425 INC. VAT) AND SIX MONTHS' ROAD FUND LICENCE AT £77. FOURTRAK TDX FEATURED COSTS £16,497 OTR AND FEATURES REAR ROOF SPOILER AS AN EXTRA COST OPTION

مكتبة الأصل

Britain
Saudi
to anni

Judge hal

By TERRY LEWIS

DEEP in the jungle, Borneo rainforest, Kajang Tukok, the rebels rest more easily. Mr Tunku, the descendants of the headstrong tribes, victory this week against the main force, which will flee in the size of Singapore.

THE SUNDAY

THE SUNDAY

Britain angered by Saudi rebel's call to annihilate Jews

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

MICHAEL HOWARD, the Home Secretary, has asked the Crown Prosecution Service to look at a call for the "annihilation" of Jews, published by a Saudi dissident given temporary asylum in Britain.

Muhammad al-Masari's call, which was made in a newsletter, *al-Huquq*, has caused outrage among MPs, Jewish organisations and anti-racist groups, and has prompted the Board of Deputies of British Jews to call on the police and Sir Nicholas Lyell, the Attorney-General, to take action against him.

The Board of Deputies said the remarks were tantamount to "incitement to murder". Dr Masari told the *Jewish Chronicle* that he was referring only to Jews living in Israel.

The dissident physicist, who headed the anti-Saudi Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights until he was ousted after a quarrel with other Saudi exiles, wrote in the weekly newsletter: "Jews are a nation of cowards. They are not a people capable of warfare. Their annihilation is not difficult for Muslims. God has declared that they will be under subjugation to those who will afflict them with the most severe punishment until the day of resurrection because of their rejection of His message."

He added: "The extermination of the Jews is a specific obligation placed on the people of Palestine, Syria, Jordan, Egypt and Lebanon because they have occupied

their land." He said that Islamic law imposed an obligation to "destroy the Jewish entity and annihilate it from its roots through holy war".

The Crown Prosecutor has been asked to decide whether these remarks breach public order or race relations laws. A spokesman said they were considering if there were grounds for prosecution.

If Dr Masari were prosecuted, that would not necessarily lead to his expulsion. However, Mr Howard, whose attempt to deport him to

Muhammad al-Masari, a Saudi dissident, is shown in a portrait. He is an older man with glasses and a beard, wearing a dark suit and tie.

Masari: remarks could prompt prosecution

Dominica was thwarted by the courts, may decide to abrogate Dr Masari's special permission to remain in Britain for the next four years.

MPs have expressed anger at Dr Masari's remarks. Winston Churchill accused him of "abusing the hospitality of this country".

Dr Masari's newsletters and faxes attacks on the Saudi Royal Family strained relations between London and Riyadh, but the Saudis have now signalled that they will ignore Dr Masari's activities.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, is travelling to Saudi Arabia on July 2 for talks with King Fahd and Saudi leaders. He is likely to seek assurances that no British business has suffered because of the Masari affair.

He may also see whether there is Saudi interest in buying the British replacement for the Nimrod maritime patrol aircraft. Britain has to decide in the next ten days whether to buy this or either of the two American competitors.

A Muslim group in Britain yesterday denounced British condemnation of Dr Masari's remarks, saying that the physicist was a "mild-natured man of intense integrity". The Bangladeshi Muslim Literary Circle said that foreign-owned sections of the media, "heavily infested by Zionist extremists", were labelling any Muslim a terrorist or fanatic, and were demonising Islam. They said Dr Masari was doing no more than reproducing verses from the Koran.



UN blows up germ plant

20-strong team of experts who are disarming Iraq. "The Al-Hakam complex, which ... produced germ

warfare weapons, no longer exists," said a member of the team, which began its work in mid-May and is due to

leave today. The factory, the first germ warfare plant to be destroyed by the team, covered seven square miles. Iraqis provided the workforce for the demolition. (AFP)

Israel rethinks pledge to quit Hebron

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM AND MARK HUBAND IN CAIRO

ON THE eve of the emergency Arab summit in Cairo, ministers from Israel's new right-wing Government met yesterday to consider proposals for watering down the commitment to withdraw from Hebron and keep security control over the occupied Palestinian city in Israeli hands.

The plan could have explosive results among the 120,000-strong Palestinian

population, some of whom yesterday pelted Israeli vehicles with rocks and bottles. The proposals are also expected to strengthen the hands of hardliners at the Cairo summit calling for a tough reaction to the election of Binyamin Netanyahu.

In Egypt's strongest reaction so far Amr Moussa, the Foreign Minister, said expansion of Jewish settlements in

the West Bank by Israel's Likud Government would be illegal, and urged Mr Netanyahu to reconsider what he called "threatening" Israeli guidelines.

Palestinian officials say that they view withdrawal from Hebron as a test of the new Government's stated commitment to peace. Hebron is the last of the seven West Bank cities due to be handed over to

Botswana builds up arsenal

Johannesburg: An arms build-up by Botswana is causing concern among neighbouring countries (Ray Kennedy writes). The acquisitions include tanks and a squadron of fighter bombers.

Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, has announced a visit to the region next month. The arms buying spree includes 50 German-made Leopard tanks from The Netherlands. Bonn is trying to block the purchase.

Euthanasia law challenged

Sydney: A last-minute challenge by Australia's Medical Association to euthanasia laws will be heard on July 1, the day the new legislation is due to take effect (Roger Maynard writes). If successful, the challenge would prevent the world's first legalized voluntary euthanasia killings from being carried out.

Burgers get the brush-off

Paris: McDonald's has scrapped plans for a restaurant in a building where Picasso and other masters bought their brushes and oils in the French capital's historic Montparnasse district after a protest rally and more than 16,000 people signed petitions against the scheme. (AP)

Mengistu is expensive guest

Harare: Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, the former Ethiopian dictator charged with genocide, has reportedly cost the Zimbabwean taxpayer nearly £650,000 in upkeep and security during his almost four years in exile here (Jan Raath writes).

Jam for lunch

Taipei: Vice-President Lien Chan of Taiwan is entitled to use 200 police to divert traffic, causing large jams, to go home in his limousine for daily lunch with his mother, the Government said. (AP)

Judge halts work on £4bn dam to save Borneo tribes from injustice

By TERRY SLAVIN

DEEP in the misty heart of the Borneo rainforest, the spirits of Kajang Tubek's ferocious ancestors rest more easily than they have for years. Mr Tubek and two other descendants of the great Dyak headhunting tribes scored a crucial victory this week in their battle against the massive Bakun dam, which will flood an area of rainforest the size of Singapore, inundating

sacred ancestral graves and forcing them to abandon their longhouse existence.

A High Court judge in far-off Kuala Lumpur ruled that the £4 billion dam — a pet project of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Prime Minister — had violated Malaysian environmental laws.

Judge James Foong said Kuala Lumpur was wrong to transfer responsibility for assessing the dam's social and environmental

impact to the Sarawak Government, a large shareholder in the project, and to ignore the concerns of environmentalists and the 10,000 indigenous tribespeople who will be resettled, forcibly if necessary, on palm oil plantations. "This court shall not idly stand by and witness such injustice," the judge said. He ordered that work be halted until the project is assessed by the federal environment ministry.

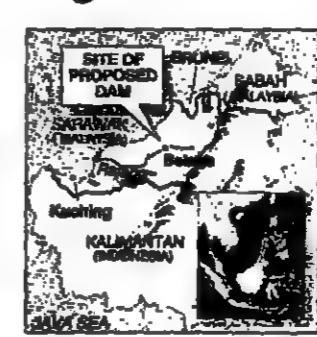
Mr Tubek and his fellow plain-

tiffs, whose protests since the dam was first announced in 1979 had been ignored by both Malaysian and Sarawak authorities, were jubilant at their victory. But Mr Tubek said he will have to tell the people in his longhouse that the battle is far from over. "The Government is determined to go ahead," he said.

Indeed, Anwar Ibrahim, Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, immediately described the High Court ruling as

"a technicality" that could be resolved without halting work on the dam.

Gurdial Singh Nijjar, a lawyer acting for the tribespeople, said the court ruling proved that Malaysia has a functioning democracy. "The truth is no matter of how high or low you are. The court has made a clear declaration that no one is above the law." But many observers fear that the ruling will be overturned on appeal.



THE SUNDAY TIMES

THE BIG TEAM AT THE BIG MATCH

The Sunday Times Sports team brings you the best, in-depth coverage of England's biggest game since the 1990 World Cup semi-final. Joe Lovejoy reports and comments on the game.

With insight, each performance and Sunday Times graphics detail the magic moments of the match.

THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

UP TO 50% OFF FERRY CROSSINGS

WITH

Stena Line

DESTINATION	PRICE
Newhaven-Dieppe	From £79*
Southampton-Cherbourg	From £79*
Dover-Calais	From £98*
Harwich-Hook of Holland	From £159*

Credit Card Booking Line

0990 777 555

Mon-Fri 9am-9pm
Sat 8am-8pm Sun 10am-1pm

Thomas Cook

Applies to Dover-Dieppe. Prices quoted are off our fares, include discounts and are for Standard, Superfast and 4* day return fares, valid for bookings made until 31 June 1996. All travel must be completed by 31 September 1996. Offers are not retrospective, may be withdrawn at any time and are subject to restricted space, availability and supplements. Offer not available in Northern Ireland. A £2 charge per passenger applies to all travel related credit card bookings. Switch and all major credit cards accepted. The Thomas Cook Group Ltd ABTA 20000 acting as agents for Stena Line Holidays ABTA V5-H5. Please ask staff for full details.

LIMITED PERIOD ONLY

Santer's 'show of steel' wins praise for forging deal

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN FLORENCE

AS THE beef armistice sent European leaders back to normal business yesterday, there was little doubt around the Florence summit that John Major had emerged the worse for wear from his short "mad cow" war. When it came to spotting winners, diplomats and politicians pointed in the direction of one man: Jacques Santer, the President of the European Commission.

In often undiplomatic terms, officials from the big continental states talked of the beef deal as a "face-saving" arrangement to defuse the crisis and to help Mr Major out of an impasse. "Major has lost credit, but not Britain," said a senior Nordic diplomat. "He gambled and lost and no one will forget that."

It was impossible to find a non-British official who agreed with government ministers that Britain had won its framework package by staging its non-cooperation campaign. "Things moved when Britain agreed to the bigger cull," said Klaus van der Pas, spokesman for Mr Santer. "The speed of the solution depended on the UK," he said. He also played down the impact of the 100 EU decisions frozen by the policy of the "half-empty chair".

Britain was expected to give its assent last night to the most important of the blocked measures — an agreement to clear the way to completing the European convention, the scheme for a European criminal intelligence agency. Britain long refused to give the European Court of Justice a

revision. Mr Major's campaign has, in the view of several EU governments, given stark proof of the need to rework the treaty, creating a more flexible Union to avoid similar disruptions.

The bluntest words yesterday came from Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Belgian Prime Minister. The treaty negotiations, the inter-governmental conference (IGC), should put an end to the ability of any state to take the Union "hostage". "We must try to find a solution to make an attitude like the one adopted by the United Kingdom impossible or to punish it with sanctions."

The IGC has got nowhere in the three months since it was launched in Turin, in the view of the others largely because of Britain's refusal to consider any extension of majority voting and dilution of the veto. Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and President Chirac of France yesterday insisted that the proceedings must be jolted into life under the forthcoming Irish EU presidency. They called on Dublin to prepare a draft of the new treaty by the end of their turn in December.

Ireland was also given the authority to call a special informal summit to push the proceedings forward. The priorities, the leaders agreed yesterday, are arrangements for common foreign and defence policies, justice and police matters and ways of making the Union more flexible.

Leading article, page 25

anti-European ire in all the 15 states, had worked doggedly after a bumpy start to broker a compromise on beef acceptable to all sides. "Jacques Delors would have lost his temper and written off the British far earlier," a German diplomat said of Mr Santer's predecessor in the Brussels job. The eminent Luxembourg had "shown he has a bit of steel in him", he added.

Britain's agreement now to put its fate in the hands of the Commission for each remaining phase of the beef embargo has bolstered the hand of Brussels as Europe negotiates to rearrange the equation of power in the Maastricht treaty

with very little paper to cover his nakedness: the footnote was about all that he had to show after a morning's horse-trading. But, somebody objected, the Italians say it is meaningless. The Whitehall wordsmiths who had hammered out the first print of the threabare surrender document stared stonily at the opposite wall.

In the bland manner of the well-trained lawyer stuck in what an American President once called "deep doo-doo", Mr Rifkind dismissed as "misinformed" the suggestion that his footnote was not worth the paper it was written on.

Mr Rifkind tried improvising: Britain had been given no date for the lifting of the beef ban but John Major would give "indications of likely dates" before long. As the Foreign Secretary spoke, an elegant woman from the Elysée Palace was setting another roomful of journalists straight on that point. "We are not talking here about a decision to lift



Farmers say it with fire

the Florence agreement would compound the loss of consumer confidence. Increase public fears and further reduce beef consumption, threatening the industry in France. Farm unions have a long

history of militancy, but the breadth and rancour of yesterday's protest took the authorities by surprise. Demonstrators fought riot police and tried to seal off Channel ports. In "opération escargot", dozens of roads were blocked using livestock, farm vehicles and crates of vegetables. About 4,000 demonstrators marched through Toulouse.

Florentines were not amused by the traffic chaos caused by the summit, or by the removal of all litter bins in case they were used as receptacles for bombs. Local residents were also inconvenienced by the closure of Florence's small airport, which was reserved for VIP flights. However, John Major's flight was diverted to Pisa. He arrived more than an hour late and ran straight into the row over where David Davis had or had not written a letter of resignation. British officials say neither he nor they got much sleep before his breakfast encounter with Signor Prodi.

ITALIAN NOTES

the summit — when Mario Prottolini, the Mayor of Florence, offered them pre-dinner drinks at the Palazzo Vecchio. "I wonder what John Major made of the symbolism of carving someone's head off and putting it on a plate," mused one European diplomat.

Flavia Prodi, the Italian Prime Minister's wife, has shunned the limelight since her husband came to power last month.

Signora Prodi, a social worker, dislikes the Rome cocktail circuit and prefers the family flat in Bologna. Yesterday, she reluctantly appeared in her role as First Lady for the official dinner at the Palazzo Pitti, and a Verdi concert conducted by Zubin Mehta. She was outshone by Donatella Dini — wife of Lamberto Dini, the Foreign Minister — who relishes the high life as a flamboyantly dressed (and independently wealthy) socialite.

The leaders, meanwhile, were offered Florentine steak cooked in rosemary and olive oil last night, and were assured by their host that it was good local beef. Signor Prodi presented them all with a bottle of Tuscan olive oil to take home as a memento.

They were not amused by the traffic chaos caused by the summit, or by the removal of all litter bins in case they were used as receptacles for bombs. Local residents were also inconvenienced by the closure of Florence's small airport, which was reserved for VIP flights. However, John Major's flight was diverted to Pisa. He arrived more than an hour late and ran straight into the row over where David Davis had or had not written a letter of resignation. British officials say neither he nor they got much sleep before his breakfast encounter with Signor Prodi.

RICHARD OWEN

Rifkind has nothing to show except the surrender papers

FROM GEORGE BROCK
IN FLORENCE

NEVER has so flimsy a fig leaf been ripped off so ferociously or so fast. Britain's European Union partners have endured too many summits in the past at which ministers from London made exaggerated claims of great negotiating victories.

This time the spin doctors from Paris, Rome and Brussels were ready for them. Malcolm Rifkind strode

quickly across the gravel courtyard of the Fortezza da Basso to a press conference as soon as the guns were silenced in the beef war. But, just in case the Foreign Secretary was thinking of proclaiming victory, an Italian minister pointed out that a recently written footnote on beef exports to third countries meant almost nothing. That left Mr Rifkind dis-

missed as "misinformed" the suggestion that his footnote was not worth the paper it was written on. Mr Rifkind tried improvising: Britain had been given no date for the lifting of the beef ban but John Major would give "indications of likely dates" before long. As the Foreign Secretary spoke, an elegant woman from the Elysée Palace was setting another roomful of journalists straight on that point. "We are not talking here about a decision to lift

Britain's longest love affair

Assam tea. Rich, strong, full-bodied and consistently good. The very first consignment was shipped in 1838.

Whatever else may have changed over the years, Assam tea has remained Britain's favourite drink.

Assam tea is grown in the north-east

of India, the land of the one-horned rhino, where the mighty Brahmaputra river winds its majestic way through lush green valleys.

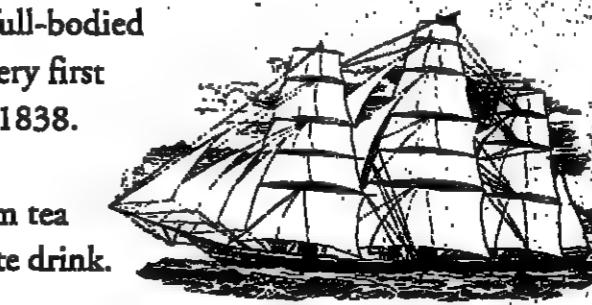
Served with milk, it is consistently refreshing and invigorating — anytime, everytime. What is more, it is now easily available, at most quality stores, in chestlets, tins or packets — loose leaf or tea bags.

And to be sure you are drinking the real thing, look for the Assam logo on the pack — that is our seal of approval and your guarantee of quality.

For more information write to:

Tea Board of India,
India House,
Aldwych, London WC2.

India Tea
perfect anytime



Buying life insurance from Virgin Direct is quick, easy and painless.

No salesmen, no commission, no pressure.

Call us now — we can probably give you a firm price over the phone in less than ten minutes.

direct

0345 95 95 95

Open from 8am to 10pm, seven days a week

Virgin Direct Personal Financial Service Ltd is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority for life insurance and unit trust business and represents only the Virgin Direct marketing group.

Virgin Direct only markets its own products. For your security all telephone calls to Virgin Direct will be recorded.

مكتبة من الأصل

Yeltsin's daughter 'alerted him to dangers of coup'

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin's younger daughter, Tatyana, may have played an important role in helping to foil the failed palace coup that resulted in the sacking of three powerful aides.

The details of the showdown are unclear, but it is evident that one wing of the Kremlin apparatus, headed by Mr Yeltsin's most trusted aide and chief bodyguard, General Aleksandr Korzhakov, tried to sideline key members of the President's campaign team and hoped to cancel the second round of voting due on July 3.

According to several Moscow analysts, General Korzhakov, Mikhail Barsukov, the counter-intelligence chief, and Oleg Soskovets, the number two in the Government, had formed a sinister troika. They had cultivated links with Communist Party members close to their outlook. The strategy was to cancel the elections and declare a "government of national unity". Mr Yeltsin would stay at his head, but only in a ceremonial role.

They needed not so much President Yeltsin, but a president who was totally under their control, who happened to be Yeltsin." Vitali Tretiakov, editor of *Nezavisimaya Gazeta*, wrote yesterday. According to Andrei Piontowsky, a Moscow political analyst, the key player on the Communist side was Professor Aleksei Podbereskin, a former intelligence analyst who now heads the Spiritual Heritage movement, a nationalist think-tank. Although not a party member



Tatyana Dyachenko, called for sackings

himself, the professor is a member of parliament and key strategist for the Communist presidential candidate, Gennadi Zyuganov.

The intermediary between General Korzhakov and Professor Podbereskin appears to have been Boris Berezovsky, a Moscow banker. In May, he initiated the Letter of 13, an appeal by top businessmen for political stability and, implicitly, cancellation of the polls.

The idea was thwarted by an unexpected phenomenon. Mr Yeltsin's dramatic revival in the polls and energetic electoral campaign. A guiding spirit in this was Tatyana Dyachenko, his younger daughter, a mathematician and mother of two, who joined the team in February as the President's main image-maker. He was publicly rebuked by Mr Yeltsin.

Someone, possibly his daughter, may have begun to warn the President that he was becoming the prisoner of his entourage. "These people created an information blockade around the President," said Mr Piontowsky. "The only person who could penetrate this blockade was Tatyana."

In an interview given before the sackings and published in yesterday's *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, Tatyana said that virtually the only people who openly criticised the President were members of his close family. She added: "Sometimes I am astonished why he tolerates next to him people who are deceiving him. He should sack them."

BY THOMAS DE WAAL

TWO cosmonauts are facing an unscheduled extra 40 days in space on the *Mir* space station because the Russian Space Agency is short of money.

It is the second time this year that Russians have been unable to return to Earth on time because of financial and technical problems in the country's flagging space programme.

Yuri Onufriyenko and Yuri

President chases the dacha runaways

FROM RICHARD BEESTON
IN MOSCOW

AFTER a week of brilliant political manoeuvring in the run-up to the second round of presidential elections, one elusive detail still stands between President Yeltsin and victory on July 3.

Having neutralised the threat posed by Communist rivals and Kremlin hardliners, Mr Yeltsin's real fear now is the allure of dachas, the country houses to which millions of his supporters could retreat on election day, a public holiday, without voting.

The dacha is regarded practically as a birthright by most of Russia's urban population. The selection of second homes, from simple hand-built sheds to lavish million-dollar mansions, is as diverse as the *dachnik*, who encompass society from factory workers to nouveaux riches.

On Friday nights, railway stations and roads are swamped as a human tide streams from the cities loaded with weekend provisions, children and pets for the relative quiet of the countryside. While most turned out to back Mr Yeltsin in the first round, this time voter apathy, warm weather and the need to tend to vegetable gardens may produce a similar exodus, even for a midweek poll.

"The elections will be decided by voter turnout, so the dacha factor is crucially important. They deliberately set the next round midweek to stop people escaping to the country," said Christopher Granville, a political analyst. According to opinion pollsters, Mr Yeltsin will win

move which will prolong the stay of cosmonauts in space. The space industry was hit by an additional problem on Thursday when a Soyuz-U rocket with a military satellite on board failed to go into orbit after lift-off.

In addition, the agency said it had decided to economise on staff and rely on the experience of the two cosmonauts already up there. The two men have been on board *Mir* since February 23. Their American

companion, the woman astronaut Shannon Lucid, who joined them in March, is due to be taken off the station earlier in August by an American shuttle.

The *Mir* station has been in orbit for ten years — three times longer than originally planned — and is expected to stay in use at least into the next century. The station, however, requires the permanent presence of humans in order to maintain and repair it. The older *Mir* gets, the

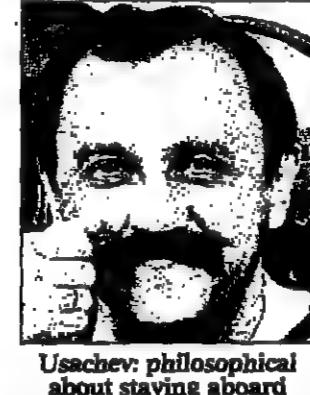
more attention it needs to prevent a malfunction, said Yuri Koptev, the Russian Space Agency director.

He said the funding for Russian space research was equivalent to 10 per cent of the 1989 level, in comparative terms. He said \$673 million (£437 million) had been budgeted for space programmes this year. Construction of a key Russian component of the Alpha orbital station — the service module — is five months behind schedule, Mr Koptev added.



Boris Pasternak at his weekend dacha, typifying the Russians' love of their land

dales west of Moscow, where Boris Pasternak, the author of *Doctor Zhivago* lived and is buried. "I voted for Yeltsin last time and will probably do so again," said Lena, whose rambling dacha is near the writer's former home. "But the garden needs weeding, the strawberries will be ripening and frankly it will be a great temptation to get out of the city."



Usachev: philosophical about staying aboard

No money makes the world go round and round for spacemen

BY THOMAS DE WAAL

Two cosmonauts are facing an unscheduled extra 40 days in space on the *Mir* space station because the Russian Space Agency is short of money.

It is the second time this year that Russians have been unable to return to Earth on time because of financial and technical problems in the country's flagging space programme.

Yuri Onufriyenko and Yuri

Usachev will have to stay in orbit until August 30 instead of coming back to Earth in mid-July, the agency's press spokesman, Anatoli Tkachev, said yesterday. "They are taking it philosophically," he added. The main reason for the postponement is the high cost of the Soyuz rocket boosters that take the cosmonauts to and from *Mir*, Mr Tkachev said. The agency has decided to cut down on manufacture of the boosters because they are too expensive, a

move which will prolong the stay of cosmonauts in space. The space industry was hit by an additional problem on Thursday when a Soyuz-U rocket with a military satellite on board failed to go into orbit after lift-off.

In addition, the agency said it had

decided to economise on staff and rely on the experience of the two cosmonauts already up there. The two men have been on board *Mir* since February 23. Their American

companion, the woman astronaut Shannon Lucid, who joined them in March, is due to be taken off the station earlier in August by an American shuttle.

The *Mir* station has been in orbit for ten years — three times longer than originally planned — and is expected to stay in use at least into the next century. The station, however, requires the permanent presence of humans in order to maintain and repair it. The older *Mir* gets, the

more attention it needs to prevent a malfunction, said Yuri Koptev, the Russian Space Agency director.

He said the funding for Russian

space research was equivalent to 10

per cent of the 1989 level, in comparative terms. He said \$673 million (£437 million) had been budgeted for space programmes this year. Construction of a key Russian component of the Alpha orbital station — the service module — is five months behind schedule, Mr Koptev added.

British Energy Shares are available from Barclays (Hurry—registration ends 24 June)



British Energy Share Offer

Registration for the sale of British Energy Shares will end at midnight on Monday 24 June. So strike now and register for your shares at Barclays Share Shop.

We have a long and proven record for reliability and professionalism so, needless to say, buying shares is quick and easy. Wait too long, however, and you could miss out on the Government's incentive, which is only available to those who register through a Share Shop.

To register, phone free on 0800 000 333. The lines are open between 8am - 10pm weekdays, or 10am - 3pm weekends, or go into any Barclays branch. But hurry. This Offer won't happen twice.

Individuals who register with, and duly apply through, a Share Shop in the UK Public Offer will receive greater preference in allocation, on a basis to be determined, than members of the public who do not register with and apply through a Share Shop, if there is a heavy demand for shares. This advertisement is issued by, and is the responsibility solely of, Barclays Stockbrokers Limited, which is acting as a Share Shop and a Retail Tender Broker in relation to the British Energy Share Offer. The value of shares, and the income from them, may go down as well as up, and you may not recover the amount of your original investment. A Share Shop making an application for shares on your behalf, and a Retail Tender Broker acting for you, in the Offer will be acting as your agent and neither a Share Shop nor a Retail Tender Broker has authority to act for the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry or any other person. Shares will be sold by the Secretary of State in the Offer solely on the basis of information contained in the Prospectus to be issued in connection with the Offer. Registrants may receive marketing literature from Barclays Stockbrokers Limited.

BARCLAYS

BARCLAYS STOCKBROKERS LIMITED

Barclays Bank PLC is regulated by IMRC. Barclays Stockbrokers Limited is a member of the London Stock Exchange, regulated by SF4 and a subsidiary of Barclays PLC. Registered in England, Reg. No. 1986161 Reg. Office: 51 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH.

An Olivetti.



You're after a brand-new, quality PC. So why not get a quality brand? Maybe because you thought you had to pay a premium? Then discount it immediately.

The Olivetti M24 New starts at just £1,058 (inc. VAT) for the Intel Pentium® processor-based P100 and only £1,291 (inc. VAT) for the P133. Which means the saving you'll make over comparable big-name PCs could buy you a new

colour printer. Or top of that, with 8MB RAM, 850MB hard disk, plus Microsoft Windows® 95 and Word® 4.0 preloaded, even the clone manufacturers will find it hard to copy.

One more thing. The Olivetti M24 New doesn't just look too good to be true, it looks too good to be anything but an Olivetti.

So now, what do you call an Olivetti that costs less than a clone? A bargain.

Freephone 0800 447799* today for more on the Olivetti M24 New.

Internet address: <http://www.olivetti.com/pc/welcome.htm>

THE NEW AGE OF TECHNOLOGY

*Lines open 8.00am - 1.30pm Monday to Friday, excluding public and bank holidays. Please call us at any time of day or night.

olivetti
personal computers

Captain of a trusted team of Anglophiles is planning to take culture to market

Iron Lady's reign in Spain

THERE is a corner of Madrid that is forever Maggie's. In an office in Spain's leading right-wing think-tank, her portrait hangs by the desk of an admirer. Miguel Angel Cortés, 37, Secretary of State for Culture in the Government of José María Aznar, is the captain of a team of Anglophile "neoliberals" determined that Baroness Thatcher's ideas find a secure home in Spain.

"Margaret Thatcher is one of the century's most remarkable politicians," Señor Cortés says. "She gave great prominence to ideas and always told the truth. Few leaders have had a greater sense of history than her, and a better direction."

After 13 years of Socialist subsidies, Spain's culture is in the hands of a man

MADRID FILE
by TUNKU VARADARAJAN

who will take it to market. With Lady Thatcher, Ronald Reagan and Friedrich von Hayek as his deities, Señor Cortés is a "liberal" — the post-Franco Spanish way of saying "conservative". The Foundation for Analysis and Social Studies is modelled on Britain's Centre for Policy Studies and the Adam Smith Institute.

"I like the British way of doing things, of producing a stream of short, thoughtful papers, of trying to influence state policy by argument and analysis."

Cava families are fizzing

THE pleasant popping of corks has given way to the angry brandishing of wands. Codorniu and Freixenet, the two leading producers of cava, Spain's equivalent to champagne, are locked in a court battle.

The Codorniu group, older and traditional, accuses its rivals of passing off as cava inferior sparkling wine that has

this, the loquacious lawyer from Valladolid, is better-placed than many. One of Señor Aznar's closest advisers, he has a direct line to the Prime Minister, having accompanied him on the long journey to the Moncloa, Spain's 10 Downing Street. The think-tank has produced policy papers on subjects as varied as the problems of multiculturalism to the flaws in the European Union's common agricultural policy. Some have been written by Michael Portillo, long a close friend of Señor Cortés. "If I were British," says the Secretary of State in near-perfect English, and not without a mischievous smile, "I would be a militant of the Conservative Party."

Unlike many Tory militants, however, Señor Cortés is a firm believer in the EU, although committed to "a Europe of the nations". The EU should not override national interests. A process of integration that goes too fast puts public support for the institutions in danger.

"We are firmly against Fortress Europe," he says, adding that Spain, Britain and Portugal — "the three nations with an Atlanticist identity" — had a common interest in keeping alive their special relationships with America. Spoken like a true Thatcherite.



Miguel Angel Cortés, Spain's Secretary of State for Culture, is a firm believer in the Thatcherite creed, but describes himself as a liberal

Monks guard Goya in fight by feminists

FRANCISCO DE GOYA, master-painter and misogynist, would not have liked the spectacle one bit. Hundreds of feminists are converging today on a Carthusian monastery near Zaragoza to protest against a 200-year rule that has stopped women seeing Spain's largest mural.

Painted by Goya in 1772, the work is at Aula Dei. Monks there cherish their all-male sanctuary and have always prohibited women from entering the monastery.

The Carthusians live in individual cells, wear hair shirts and abstain from eating meat. They consume only bread and water on Fridays and speak to each other only on Sundays. Women in their midst, it is held, would destroy the fragile beauty of their asceticism.

But modern Spanish women refuse to accept that access to an art treasure can be barred because of the whims of a few hundred monks. They are demanding equal treatment, and women's groups have threatened to camp indefinitely outside the monastery.

Only two women have so far seen the mural, namely Queen Sofia and an art restorer. It was not easy: both had to get express papal bulls to get past the door.

Secular sentiments run high as Pope starts German visit

FROM ROGER BOYES
IN BONN

THE Pope travelled to united Germany yesterday for the first time in his papacy and found a church in turmoil.

Demonstrators are underlining the gap between the Vatican's teachings and Germany's secular society. In Berlin, prostitutes have organised an anti-papist ball, and 500 homosexual couples will hold a collective wedding ceremony to coincide with the papal Mass at Hitler's Olympic Stadium tomorrow.

Across the board, there have been criticism and noisy protests. Some have come from long-standing church dissidents like Hans Küng, a theologian who for decades has attacked church teachings on abortion, papal infallibility and the celibacy of priests.

Now he has returned to the fray by declaring that the church should tackle the issue of euthanasia and the right of the terminally ill to choose the method of their death. A gay "mass" is to be held at the weekend in which the Hamburg sado-masochistic prostitute, Domenica Niehoff, will declare herself to be "Popess Domenica the First", and stage a mock-beatification of the Berlin transvestite, Charlotte von Mahlsdorf. A gay "Love Parade" will attract tens of thousands of homosexuals to Berlin — not enough to rival the 130,000 Catholics attending the papal Mass, but sufficient to embarrass the church leadership.

Even mainstream politicians have joined in the argument. "Denouncing birth control and abortion has nothing to do with charity," said Erik Schrader, chairman of the youth branch of the Free Democratic Party. The party is planning a parade of marching



The Pope on his first trip to a united Germany

condoms on the eve of the papal visit.

Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, a practising Catholic, will meet the Pope tomorrow and has said he will appeal to the pontiff to show more understanding on issues such as population control, and the role of women priests. The carnival on the sidelines of the two-day pilgrimage indicates how far the Germans have drifted from organised religion. Fifty per cent of former East Germans say, categorically, that they are not religious. The Germans in the West seem to be more devout — only 39 per cent describe themselves as non-religious.

■ Berlin: A court lifted a Nazi legal judgment against Bernhard Lichtenberg, a Roman Catholic priest martyred during the Third Reich and due to be beatified by the Pope tomorrow. The court said it overruled the verdict because it was based on laws meant to defend Nazi ideology and was used to send a dissenter to jail. (Reuters)

Newton solves
multipen problem
for rotring's
Doktor Schmidt.

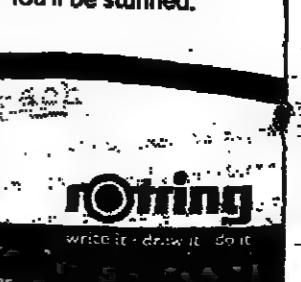


Three-pens-in-one
are usually bulky.

rotring's svelte trio hi-lite
is barely 9mm across. How?
Dr. Schmidt used gravity instead
of mechanical linkages to solve
the problem of nib selection.

Danke, Herr Newton.

Try it. You'll be stunned.



rotring trio-pen hi-lite
available from all good pen shops.

computing

faxing

imaging

photoring

copying



While stocks last, the BJC-210

printer also comes with a free colour

cartridge worth £24.99. So, as your

printing needs grow, the BJC-210

grows with them. At no extra cost.

Which gives you the perfect excuse

The BJC-210
Printer

to come out with some pretty

colourful language. For more

information, Freefone 0500 246 246,

or Fax us on 0121 693 5070.

Canon

If anyone can Canon can.

<http://www.europe.canon.com>

مكتبة الأصل



■ OPINION

Come off it, Mr Travolta: even a \$17 million actor needs a spot of direction



■ POP

A game of two halves: football fever reaches the sedate world of modern art

THE TIMES ARTS



■ CHOICE

From the Sex Pistols' big comeback to West End shows: see Weekend, page 14 for the top events



■ ON MONDAY

'Poems on the Underground' sets a challenge for poets to capture the essence of a city

Is there anywhere I would rather have been last week than in the exquisitely appointed offices of *The Times*? The question is nigh unthinkable, of course. Nevertheless, I have dared to think it, and the answer is this: I wish I had been on the set of Roman Polanski's new film and witnessed the wonderful spat between the diminutive director and his star actor, John Travolta.

I do feel a bit sorry for Polanski. (That's a sentence you never thought you would read.) He hires Travolta for \$17 million, this being the preposterous price that the one-time twinkling pelvis of *Grease* now commands after his "brilliant" comeback as a drug-crazed homicidal thug in Quentin Tarantino's *Pulp Fiction*. He ships Travolta's \$200,000 trailer from America to Paris, so that the actor can recuperate from the strain of remembering several lines at a time in front of the camera. To cap it all, Polanski — the director, let us not forget, of such celluloid masterpieces as *Chinatown* and *Rose*

mary's Baby — grants Travolta "script approval". Which is a bit like Raymond Blanc granting "menu approval" to his waiters.

I am exaggerating of course. Or am I? This week the showbiz paper *Varley* tells us that the "supermodel" Veronica Webb has decided to be a Hollywood screenwriter. "It's a fun brain exercise," she says of her new career. "If it all works, it would be dope." Good grief. What a wordsmith. Stand aside, F. Scott Fitzgerald.

Can this be evidence that Hollywood has lost all semblance of sanity? Quite possibly. The rule in present-day popular culture seems to be that, in any contest between celebrity and talent, the former wins every time. If Charles Dickens were to descend from heaven today brandishing the television rights to a new novel, would he find any takers? I doubt

it. Not if he were up against *My Life as a Weather Girl* by Tracy Stoggs, much-loved presenter of *Good Morning Basingstoke*.

Even this does not satisfy our modest superstar. Travolta declares that Polanski should not attempt to direct his "personal performances", but only submit a "creative vision" — in writing. Not surprisingly, this creates a certain friction. Travolta storms off, and now the wrists are flying like pillows in a fourth-form dorm.

Can this be evidence that Hollywood is crass, mad, celebrity-obsessed? Hollywood makes movies that regularly haul in billions of dollars. The latest blockbuster, *Twister* — about a tornado — has taken \$200 million in its first six weeks. Even *Mission: Impossible*, a rehash of an ancient TV series, is pushing towards \$150 million. Meanwhile, our literate, witty, compassionate, ironic Brit-

ish films mostly flop like stranded jellyfish in overseas markets.

Here's what we should do. Just for once, we should throw away our manuals of good taste and subtlety. Let's shamelessly ape Hollywood's worst characteristics, find a story of blatant, blood-and-bullets mindlessness, pay way over the odds for celebrity stars and writers — and then watch it outgross *Jurassic Park*.

So the Americans make films about tornadoes? We get exciting weather too! So they turn up old TV series? We have vaults of the stuff. How about a film called *Dixon of Dock Green goes out in a light drizzle*, scripted by Anthea Turner and starring Paul Gascoigne? A sure-fire hit, I should think. Or, as we say in the movie business: "If it all works, it would be dope."

down. Searching the garden shed, inch by inch. Scrabbling under the fuchsias like a hyperactive badger. You see, somewhere it *must* exist.

The long-lost Schubert symphony, I mean. Or the Turner painting that everybody has overlooked. I'm not fussy. I will settle for an early *Damien Hirst* if I could get it to the auction house before the health inspectors confiscate it.

The stream of "amazing discoveries" in people's attics and suchlike is truly remarkable, is it not?

In recent years we have learnt of a Caravaggio identified in an Irish monastery; an unknown Berlioz Mass found in an organ loft; a public school tuck-shop that apparently contained a priceless ancient mural; a Canova statue found under a rhododendron bush in the West Country; and, only this week, a manuscript fragment of an aria allegedly written by Mozart.

which has "popped up" in the loft of a private house in America. Just fancy that!

Where, exactly, was it found? Who found it? How did it get there? Christie's, the auctioneers, won't say. Yet they are expecting someone to pay £30,000 for the mysterious scrap next Wednesday.

Well, then, how do we know it is by Mozart? Partly because, conveniently enough, the words "Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart" are written at the top! "Mozart's signature," *The Daily Telegraph* explained helpfully. Strange how usually sceptical journalists develop a golly-gosh deference when they walk into auction houses.

Actually, chaps, it isn't. Mozart never signed himself that way, as any music undergraduate could tell you. Indeed, Christie's themselves will admit this, if pressed on the matter. Of course this doesn't mean that the music itself is fake. But let's just say that the Morrison Estate won't be entering into the bidding war next week. I expect the Gertys will be relieved.

Never mind the talent; feel the fame



RICHARD MORRISON

ish films mostly flop like stranded jellyfish in overseas markets. Here's what we should do. Just for once, we should throw away our manuals of good taste and subtlety. Let's shamelessly ape

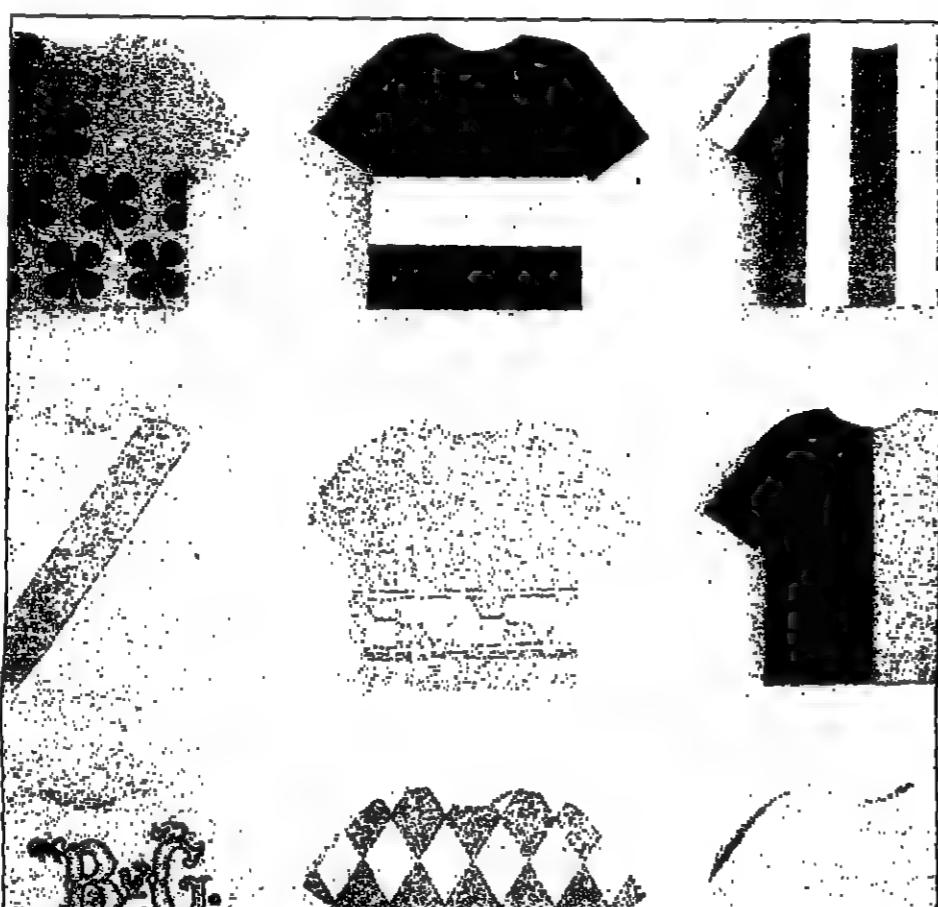
W hat are you doing this weekend? After the foot-ball, that is. And don't say drowning your sorrows; this is a very patriotic column. I know what I shall be doing. Turning the cupboard under the stairs upside-

They think it's all oeuvre — it is now

The art of football extends far beyond the pitch, says Charles Hall

Whatever the quality of the sport, Euro '96 has already spawned an impromptu national festival of football-related art. Our artists look, on the whole, remarkably comfortable on the ball.

There is nothing new about the art world's infatuation with the beautiful game. Ben Nicholson, an artist whose own talents lay more in the direction of table tennis, liked to say that abstraction was about the reconciliation of opposing forces and "has as much to do with Arsenal v Tottenham Hotspur as it does with the movements of the stars". But there is something new in the form in which this appreciation is expressed. For Nicholson, football is a thing of beauty — the spontaneous physical and intellectual interaction of 22 highly athletic players. However, to judge from the exhibitions at Manchester's Cornerhouse and City Art Galleries in collaboration with the Institute of International Visual Arts, the

The political game: detail of the strips in *Passion de Multitude* by Rosana Fuertes

quality of the football is of no interest at all to the artists of today. Their interest, it seems, is primarily anthropological.

Mark Wallinger's contribution is a huge scarf, whose motif is taken from the double

helix of DNA — a wonderfully concise expression of fandom at its most basic, as an assertion of identity through tribal loyalty. It is not quite clear, though, if the implication is of simple inevitability

"I was born an Arsenal fan" or of consumer choice you can buy your identity off the peg, along with your Manchester United strip.

It is the second possibility

which most interests the artists here. Rosana Fuertes's *Passion de Multitude* consists of a wall crammed with designs for football shirts, most of which appear feasible, until you see that most of them are either well-known logos or political icons; Che Guevara makes an appearance. The step is small, Fuertes seems to be saying, from being a Flora Man to a Liverpool fan, or membership of the Chelsea Head Hunters to dedication to the cause.

Adam Beebee makes much the same point with grids of small, apparently abstract paintings: they turn out to be based on the banners of various Italian fan groups, but they could easily pass for national flags. You can readily imagine young men foolish enough to honour them, or perhaps even to lay down their lives for them.

In fact, imagination is redundant: it is the literal truth. Groups of fans may make ersatz nations, but real ones are not above recruiting the sporting instinct (it is only 20 years since El Salvador and Honduras went to war over a soccer match). When, in the First World War, a Captain Nevill led his men over the top, he encouraged them by offering a prize to the first man to kick his football into the German trenches. Crispin Jones shows a photograph of one of those balls, which has survived Nevill — and most of his men — by more than 80 years.

The hostility resurfaces in Virgil Tracey's exhibition at the Cornerhouse, innocuously billed as *Welcome, willkommen, bienvenue*. The show is dominated by a series of St George's Crosses, emblazoned with translations of popular chants. "You couldn't score in a brothel," we read. "Come over here if you think you're hard enough." Team spirit certainly has a lot to answer for.

The trouble with this kind of work is that it tends to suggest that the artist is a lot smarter than the people he or she is trying to understand. There are, though, a handful of works which manage to imply a more generous relationship. I particularly like Roddy Buchanan's collection of mug shots of Glaswegian park players, each of whom has been selected because he has chosen to play in either AC Milan or Inter Milan strip.

You could take them, at first sight, for the real thing — but for the fact that there are far too many of them. This is not a team, but a kind of virtual community, bound together by a common fantasy. Buchanan's curiosity is evidently tempered with respect.

That becomes even clearer in his *Ten in a Million*, which simply records what you can see when you turn slowly round in the centre circle of a selection of football pitches around the world. The answer is not a lot, unless your taste runs to railway lines, passing traffic and undistinguished housing, but then this is precisely the

kind of communal space which modern cities are supposed to lack, and it is here, in an apparently anonymous stretch of ground, that the kind of bonding which the other artists here seem to be poking fun at goes on. This is where the things which humanise a city actually happen. It comes as no surprise, therefore, to discover that Buchanan is a park player himself.

There is a similar warmth to Lucy Gurney's video showing two women having a kickabout in the gallery. The location is no accident — the sight of women playing foot-

ball still tends to elicit an amused, self-consciously tolerant smile, and it is not so long since women artists had to endure the same kind of response.

It is a characteristic piece of work: this is not the beautiful game, any more than it is Great Art; but it evidently matters a great deal. The players look faintly ridiculous, but they are utterly absorbed.

■ Official Contemporary Artists and Art Galleries until September 1. *Welcome, willkommen, bienvenue*, new work by Virgil Tracey is at the Cornerhouse until September 8.



In association with Opera North and Theater im Pfalzbau, Ludwigshafen

SPONSORED BY THE FRIENDS OF COVENT GARDEN

24 27 29 June

2 5 July at 7.30pm



The ROYAL OPERA



GREAT MINDS THINK ALIKE.

If they agree on one thing, it's their weekly reading matter. Brilliant writing. Incisive reporting. Controversial opinion. The outbacks and developments of life on campus. And off it.

Top academics read *The Times Higher Education Supplement* every Friday.

And if you're involved in higher education, you should too.

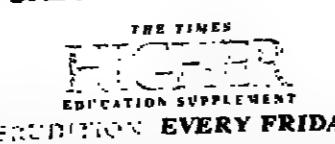
SUBSCRIBE NOW AND SAVE 30%.

Take out a six month subscription to *The Times Higher Education Supplement* now and you'll pay just £18.00; saving you £8.00 off the normal UK cover price.

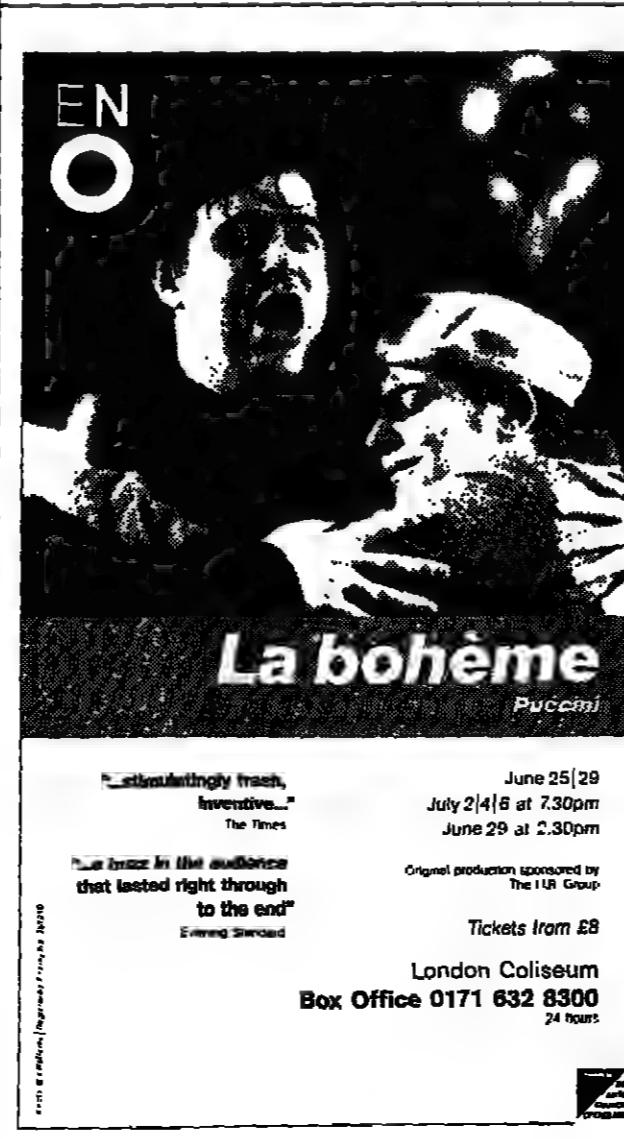
ON SALE 30% AND GET LATER 12 LOTS FREE.

Take out an annual subscription to *The Times Higher Education Supplement* for just £36.00 (saving you £16.00 off the normal UK cover price) and you'll also receive a copy of *The Laurie Taylor Guide To Higher Education*, absolutely free. *The Times Higher Education Supplement* is available from newsagents but, with our special offers there really is no better time than the present to take up your very own subscription.

CREDIT CARD HOTLINE 01708 378379



EDITION EVERY FRIDAY.



"stimulatingly fresh, inventive..."
The Times

"full brass in the audience that lasted right through to the end"
Evening Standard

June 25/29
July 2/4/8 at 7.30pm
June 29 at 2.30pm

Original production sponsored by The IBS Group

Tickets from £8

London Coliseum
Box Office 0171 632 8300
24 hours

THE DEBUT SOLO ALBUM FROM
THE VOICE AND GUITAR OF DIRE STRAITS
MARK KNOPFLER
golden heart



Includes the singles
Darling Pretty and Cannibals

TO ADVERTISE
CALL: 0171 680 6222 (TRADE)

CLASSICAL CONCERTS

Barbican Centre

Sun 23 June 4.00pm

Johnny Morris, OBE,
20th Birthday Concert - A Full Four Score
Ernest Read Symphony Orchestra, Peter Stark conductor
Prog Inc. Ressort Overture, Wilton Toff, Salut-Salut! Carnival
of the Animals, Rimsky-Korsakoff Finale from Le Coq D'Or
01, 03, 05, 07, 09, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31 June 16 Sat 7pm

Mon 24 June 7.30pm

Wells Cathedral School
25th Anniversary of the Wells Cathedral Music Scheme
Wells Cathedral School Chamber Orchestra, Roger
Dorando, Director, Paul Demetri & Kevin Murphy
Conductors, John Chayton piano. Works by Mozart,
Machaut, Berlioz, Chopin & Shostak
£5, 7.50, 10 in aid of the Prince's Trust

Wed 26, Fri 28 & Sun 30 June

Wed 26, Fri 28 June 7.30pm

Sun 30 June 3.30pm



Enjoy music
from the movies...
Live!

Celebrated film-music composer
John T. Williams conducts the
London Symphony Orchestra.

Featuring *Summer of the Gods*
(1995 Olympic music) and musical
picks from *JFK*, *Star Wars*,

Sixteen, *Cold Encounters* of the
Third Kind, *Jurassic Park*, *Schindler's
List*, *ET* and *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.

...one of those adrenalin-
pumping experiences."

The Daily Telegraph

Tickets £5-£22 Sponsored by BSkyB

Thu 27 June 7.30pm

**Julian Joseph
Trio and Big Band**

Jazz classics like Thelonious Monk's
Ruby My Dear and "The Duke's"

Caravan, with a selection of Julian
Joseph's own compositions.

Tickets £18

Wed 3 July 7.30pm

**Julian Joseph
Trio with the LSO**

and special guest Joe Zawinul,
Miller Gibbs conductor

Original music by Joseph including
My Desire and Universal Traveller plus
Gershwin Rhapsody in Blue and An
American in Paris. Joe Zawinul

performs excerpts from his Stories
from the Blue Danube.

Pre-concert discussion with Julian Joseph on
3 July, 6.15-6.45pm, free to ticket-holders.

Tickets £8-£23

LSO in association with Jazz FM

Jazz FM

Tues 2 July 7.30pm

Ravi Shankar - one special performance
Ravi Shankar - son of his disciple Anuradha
Shankar after William Gethin interview

Performs compositions, teaches, writes. Ravi Shankar is renowned
throughout the world for bringing Indian music to the West.

£14, £16, £18 LSO in association with the Asia Music Circuit

0171 638 8891

Book now

The Barbican Centre is owned, funded and
managed by the Corporation of LondonPART OF THE
CITY OF LONDON
FESTIVAL

sbc

Thu 27 June 8:

**Heiner Goebbels
The Liberation of Prometheus**

Featuring
Heiner Goebbels, David Moss and Ernst Stotzner

The fantastic mythological story of the framing of Prometheus by
Prometheus by Heiner Goebbels is a contemporary drama
written on his feet by and starring Goebbels, one of the
most innovative and original composers working in musical
theatre today.

Tickets £8

Sunday 30 June

Queen Elizabeth Hall, RPH at 7.45pm

London Sinfonietta

Markus Stenz

André Wilms

Magnus Lindberg's latest commission
Engine - hot off the press!

Heiner Goebbels

Tickets £10 £6

Tickets and free festival brochure

0181 960 4242

As part of
Meltdown 96

sbc



■ POP 1

From Nashville to the Borderline: BRS-49 prove to be more than the sum of their name



■ POP 2

... while the Californian trio Grant Lee Buffalo bring an epic touch to the Forum



■ BASE NOTES

The London Coliseum will welcome Mikhail Baryshnikov for a dance season this summer



■ BASE NOTES

David Leveaux makes his musical theatre directing debut with a stage version of Fellini

■ OPERA AT GLYNDEBOURNE

Spare change for the better

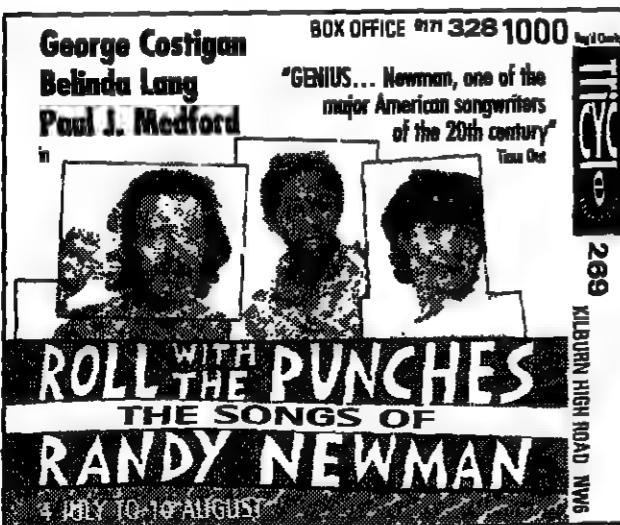
WHEN Jamie MacDougall took over the part of Septimius in Glyndebourne's *Theodora*, he landed himself in a role which, although not a major one in Handel's great oratorio, is in many ways its emotional and spiritual pivot. Hilary Finch writes.

In having to enforce the death penalty — against the promptings of his own conscience — on those Christians who refused to worship the Roman gods on Emperor Diocletian's birthday, he embodies the powerful confrontations which leap out of Handel's music in this Peter Sellars production of profound musical and dramatic truth. Life denied and life affirmed; innocence and cynical experience; torturer and victim: the polarities clash and collide relentlessly.

MacDougall's robust tenor was not without difficulties the first night he sang. A gruff gremelin seemed at times lodged in the larynx. Yet with the support of the Orchestra of the Age of the Enlightenment playing as beautifully as I have ever heard them, he survived his ordeal. The playing seemed newly pointed, directed now from the harpsichord by Harry Bicket, making a premature debut as William Christie had been told to rest after a mild heart attack. Bicket will be in charge of the Glyndebourne Touring Opera autumn run: the regions are in for a rare treat.

WHEN it was first seen in 1991, the Glyndebourne production of *Cosi fan tutte* had the inestimable asset of the period-instrument Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment under Simon Rattle, *Barry Millington* writes. The pit has now been reclaimed by the modern instruments of the London Philharmonic Orchestra and when this year's revival opened under

Trevor Nunn's production (reviewed by Michael McCarthy) it is ingenious, perceptive and brilliantly theatrical.



■ POP CONCERTS

The adage that what goes around, comes around, came into full effect last Monday evening at London's Borderline, *Paul Sexton* writes. The hottest ticket of the night was for an American group that has become the talk of Nashville with a sound that belongs to the 1940s and 1950s.

Parry's tempos are fleet, his phrasing well pointed and his textures buoyant. The comic timing is as sharp in the pit as on the stage, and the wind-band music of Act II is played with especial precision and polish.

No cast change had originally been scheduled, but the American Dorabella, Susan Graham, asked to be released from the production early in the run (because of serious illness in the family) and the Ferrando, John Mark Ainsley, also missing several performances through indisposition. Fortunately their understudies, chorus members Imelda Drumm and Andrew MacKenzie-Wicks, were more than ready to step in.

Drumm demonstrated special assurance both vocally and dramatically; her *Smarie incompatibili*, a model of controlled agitation, was articulated impressively, while *E amore un ladroncello* was negotiated in sprightly fashion.

MacKenzie-Wicks showed great promise in *Un aura amorosa*, both affecting and evenly sung. In the second act, the strain began to tell, when *Tradito, scherito*, which had started with a fine show of fury, ran out of steam. *Salveig Kringelborn's* Fiordiligi was confident if a little steely in tone; *Simon Keenlyside's* Guglielmo remains outstanding. *Jake Gardner* is the suave Don Alfonso, and *Lillian Watson* the resourceful Despina.

Trevor Nunn's production (reviewed by Michael McCarthy) is ingenious, perceptive and brilliantly theatrical.



Crazy name, crazy guys: BRS-49 have become the next big thing in country by playing the music of the era when Elvis Presley was still driving a truck

Baryshnikov dances back

IN HIS guise as modern dance superstar, Mikhail Baryshnikov is returning to London this summer. He is bringing his White Oak Dance Project to the London Coliseum (Aug 20-24). That's the company he formed in 1989, in partnership with the choreographer Mark Morris, after hanging up his ballet shoes forever. White Oak's season will showcase work by some of America's top contemporary choreographers, including Morris.

Once again, the Edinburgh Festival Fringe is

■ BASE NOTES

boasting a bigger-than-ever programme which, claim the organisers, immodesately, makes it "the largest arts festival in the world since records began". The statistics are impressive: 9,154 performers taking to the stage in 14,060 performances of 1,238 shows in 187 venues. Among the more offbeat offerings: the complete story of the Bible in 90 minutes; the British stage premiere of *Reservoir Dogs*; and a three-course meal in the company of Doctor Faustus.

■ DIRECTOR David Leveaux will make his musical theatre debut in December when he stages the belated London premiere of *Nine*, the Arthur Kopit-Maury Yesten adaptation of Fellini's *8½* that won Broadway's Best Musical Tony in 1982. The production, to be designed by Anthony Ward, will open at the Donmar Warehouse.

■ POOR Matthew Hart. His first commission for English National Ballet, a Forties-inspired work called *Blitz*, was scheduled to have its world premiere in Cambridge last month. Severe production difficulties scuppered its planned debut on the night, as they did the following night. Undaunted, the young Covent Garden choreographer then looked forward to a world premiere rescheduled for London this week. But just before the curtain rose at the Festival Hall on Monday night, leading man Roman Rykin pulled a muscle and once again *Blitz* was called off. Meanwhile, Hart's new *Cinderella* was to have been one of the star attractions in London over Christmas, danced by London City Ballet — which went bust this week.

■ THE *Trainspotting* trio of Danny Boyle (director), Andrew MacDonald (producer), and John Hodge (writer) are turning to America for their first film, *A Life Less Ordinary*, due to start shooting later this year. The \$12 million film tells the story of a Scottish cleaner who kidnaps the daughter of his wealthy employer and sets off on a road trip across America. Ewan McGregor, who starred in the team's previous films, *Shallow Grave* and *Trainspotting*, is expected to play the lead role.

GREAT DRAMA AT THE ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE

BOOKING OPENS ON MONDAY FOR...

The Oedipus Plays

Oedipus the King & *Oedipus at Colonus* by Sophocles in a new translation by Ranjit Bolt (17 September - 30 November)

However, anyone who witnessed Grant Lee Buffalo's memorable show at London's ICA three years ago will remember the trio for their sonic noise rather than their balladry, and they finished in the memorable style, with both Phillips and Kimble burning their guitars up on *Fuzzy*.

This performance may have lacked the overall intensity of that ICA show but, like the trio's new album, it included some more subtle moments instead.

Blinded by the Sun

a new play by Stephen Poliakoff (from 28 August) *Duncan Bell, Douglas Hodge and Frances de la Tour* lead the cast in this tale of greed, deception and jealousy, directed by Ron Daniels.

BOOKING ALREADY OPEN FOR...

John Gabriel Borkman

by Henrik Ibsen in a new version by Nicholas Wright (from 5 July) in association with the Royal National Theatre's Private Contributors. Richard Eyre's production of this compelling drama features Eileen Atkins, Michael Bryant, Vanessa Redgrave and Paul Scofield.

The Red Balloon

Also currently in repertory: *A Little Night Music* music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by Hugh Wheeler; *The Prince's Play* by Victor Hugo, in a new verse translation by Tony Harrison; *Mary Stuart* by Friedrich Schiller, in a new translation by Jeremy Sams; *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* by Tom Stoppard; *The Royal National Theatre and Shared Experience* co-production of *War and Peace* adapted by Helen Edmundson from the novel by Leo Tolstoy; *Stanley* a new play by Pam Gems.

NT Box Office 0171-928 2252 First Call 0171-420 0000

OPERA & BALLET

"THE SEXIEST WORK EVER PERFORMED IN CHICAGO: A STANDING OVATION LONGER AND LOUDER THAN EVER WITNESSED" CHICAGO READER



THE JOFFREY BALLET OF CHICAGO
MUSIC BY GERALD ALFRED PFEISTER
BILLBOARDS
WED 28 AUGUST - SUN 8 SEPTEMBER
Box Office Hotline 0171 960 4204
Ticketmaster 0171 344 4444 First Call 0171 420 1000
Tickets £30, £23, £16, £10
NO BOOKING FEE

Royal Festival Hall on the South Bank

THEATRES

PHOENIX BOX OFFICE 0171 388 1733

2444 4444/423 0000 (box)

BEST MUSICAL

Oliver! Drama Awards

Play by Andrew Lloyd Webber

WILLY RUBELLS

BLOOD BROTHERS

SHOBAN MACINTYRE

UNTRADITIONAL CAST

Play by the author, and

revised by the author

and directed by P. Hall

7.45 Mon 3 Sat 4

PIACCIOLI 0171 388 1724

22 Mon 24 Sat 25 26

27 Sat 28 Sun 29

30 Sun 31 Mon 1

32 Tue 33 Wed 34

35 Sat 36 Sun 37

38 Mon 39 Tue 40

41 Wed 42 Thu 43

44 Fri 45 Sat 46

47 Sun 48 Mon 49

50 Tue 51 Wed 52

53 Thu 54 Fri 55

56 Sat 57 Sun 58

59 Mon 60 Tue 61

62 Wed 63 Thu 64

65 Fri 66 Sat 67

68 Sun 69 Mon 70

72 Tue 73 Wed 74

76 Thu 77 Fri 78

80 Sat 81 Sun 82

84 Mon 85 Tue 86

88 Wed 89 Thu 90

92 Fri 93 Sat 94

96 Sun 97 Mon 98

100 Tue 101 Wed 102

104 Thu 105 Fri 106

108 Sat 109 Sun 110

112 Mon 113 Tue 114

116 Wed 117 Thu 118

120 Fri 121 Sat 122

124 Sun 125 Mon 126

128 Tue 129 Wed 130

132 Thu 133 Fri 134

136 Sat 137 Sun 138

140 Mon 141 Tue 142

144 Wed 145 Thu 146

148 Fri 149 Sat 150

152 Sun 153 Mon 154

156 Tue 157 Wed 158

160 Thu 161 Fri 162

164 Sat 165 Sun 166

168 Mon 169 Tue 170

172 Wed 173 Thu 174

176 Fri 177 Sat 178

180 Sun 181 Mon 182

184 Tue 185 Wed 186

188 Thu 189 Fri 190

192 Sat 193 Sun 194

196 Mon 197 Tue 198

200 Wed 201 Thu 202

204 Fri 205 Sat 206

208 Sun 209 Mon 210

212 Tue 213 Wed 214

216 Thu 217 Fri 218

220 Sat 221 Sun 222

224 Mon 225 Tue 226

228 Wed 229 Thu 230

232 Fri 233 Sat 234

236 Sun 237 Mon 238

240 Tue 241 Wed 242

244 Thu 245 Fri 246

248 Sat 249 Sun 250

<p

Royal balm for a blind, bitter land

John Grigg on George V's Belfast speech of 1921, which inaugurated peace at the price of Irish partition

Seventy-five years ago today, King George V landed in Belfast to open the new Parliament of Northern Ireland. He drove in a carriage from Donegal Quay to the City Hall, where the ceremony took place. As yet there was no Stormont, the grandiose parliament building there was not opened until 1932. After the ceremony at the City Hall, the Parliament occupied temporary quarters at the Presbyterian Theological College for more than a decade.

The speech that the King delivered on June 22, 1921, was no routine utterance, but one of the most striking and influential of his reign. And I have a strong personal interest in it, since it was written by my father, Edward Grigg (as the King's biographers, Harold Nicolson and Kenneth Rose, clearly state). At the time my father was working for the Prime Minister, Lloyd George, in the secretariat that he maintained at 10 Downing Street.

The circumstances of the speech are worth recalling. Under the Government of Ireland Act (1920) Ireland was partitioned into two legislative areas, of 26 counties in the South and six in the North. The partition took account of existing realities, but was never meant to be permanent, at any rate by Lloyd George. He genuinely desired a united Ireland, though preferably within the United Kingdom and certainly within the British Empire. But he had long believed that this could come about only by consent.

While establishing two Home Rule Parliaments in Ireland, the 1920 Act also provided facilities for union, or reunion. It set up a Council of Ireland with representatives from both sides, to which some specific powers were assigned, and which was free to extend its scope.

In the South, the Sinn Féin party, which had swept the poll in the 1918 general election, stood for total independence and therefore rejected the 1920 Act. It had created its own Dail under the presidency of Eamon de Valera, and some Sinn Féiners, led by Michael Collins, were engaged in a terrorist campaign against the British security forces and Irish civilians who served the Crown. To this, Lloyd George's Government was responding with a grimly effective counter-terror, using the Auxiliaries and the "Black and Tans".

The six-county North was dominated (as, of course, it still is) by the Scots-Irish Protestant Unionists, although the Gaelic-Irish Catholic minority constituted a third of the population. The charismatic leader of Ulster Unionism was Edward Carson, but he was not an Ulsterman, and in practice the man who counted was James Craig.

Ireland in June 1921 was, therefore, still part of the United Kingdom, but politically divided and in the grip of murderous violence. In going to Belfast to open the Northern Ireland Parliament, the King was taking a considerable risk. He did so without hesitation.

General Smuts, who happened to be in London for an Imperial Conference, advised him to use the occasion to send a message of peace to the whole of Ireland. This idea appealed to him, as it did to Lloyd George. But a draft speech by force of Smuts did not find favour. Lloyd George then asked my

The King risked his life for a peace that lasted half a century

A did not lead to a permanent solution of the Irish question.

But it did produce an approximate state of peace for nearly half a century. The King's Belfast speech did not cause this, but it can fairly be regarded as an important contribution — just as his father's visit to Paris in 1903 was an important contribution to the *entente cordiale*.

It was not George V's fault, or Lloyd George's, that republican extremists in the Free State plunged the new country into civil war over a treaty that had been ratified by the Dail and endorsed by the people in an election. Nor was it their fault that partition was solidified over the years by narrow-minded leadership both North and South.

Above all, it is no fault of theirs that violent republicanism has revived as a threat to democratic government in both parts of Ireland. They did their best — as the promoters of the latest negotiations have been doing their best — but until the attempt to unite Ireland by force is finally abandoned, all dawns are bound to prove false.

Not cricket

FOR THE first time during a Test match which England could win, sections of the crowd will be praying for rain at Lord's today. In a break with tradition, England's Euro 96 quarter-final with Spain will be shown on the big screen overlooking the ground — but only if the cricket is off.

Normally the screen, situated above the Edrich Stand at Lord's, shows replays and highlights from the cricket in progress on the field.



The Test and County Cricket Board has taken the extraordinary decision to show "the winter game" because of the unparalleled excitement about the fixture.

A number of tickets have been returned to Lord's by cricket followers who have decided to watch the football instead. The radios of those who do turn up are less likely to be tuned into ball-by-ball commentary than into the England-Spain match. As always at Lord's, they will only be allowed with an accompanying earphone.

Should the weather hold, the only option for football fans will be to sneak away at 3pm to a nearby pub. The television sets dotted around the members' areas are jealously guarded by those who turn up for the event but follow proceedings on the box. "There will be no football watching in here," growled one gin-soaked sentinel of the TV room yesterday.

Barking mad

PRESIDENTIAL candidate Bob Dole's yapping dog created some tension the other day among neighbours of his apartment in the Watergate building, Washington. A

The Tories prefer Californian 'work first' to Labour's Australian model, says Andrew Mitchell

Most lone parents want to move out of welfare dependency and back to work. In Britain the Government is tackling the problem through a two-pronged policy of maintenance and work incentives. But we are also looking abroad for new ideas.

Everyone agreed that the Child Support Agency had a bumpy start. But we have now almost doubled the average amount of maintenance that single parents bringing up children are awarded, and traced 137,000 absent parents who were previously paying nothing. Maintenance helps lone parents to return to work, as it is paid in addition to any wages they receive.

The Government has also introduced Family Credit to make work more worthwhile for people who could get only low-paid jobs. Since 1992, Family Credit has helped more than 200,000 lone parents to find work. We have also refined and improved the scheme by reducing the minimum hours of work needed to qualify, which helps parents who can only work part-time, and by taking into account the cost of childcare.

The Australian Government is conducting a detailed study of JET's cost-effectiveness. We heard evidence which clearly contradicted initial claims that JET was self-financing. Reported figures apparently ignored the cost of most state-funded childcare, and took credit for all lone parents who found work, even though many would have returned to work even without JET's help. So the true cost of JET has been underestimated. But even before these factors are taken into account, the official figures show that in its first five years JET has cost taxpayers more than it saved.

Even more interesting were reports that JET, in addition to being costly, may not actually be helping lone parents back to work. In any one year only about 10 per cent of JET's clients found work, and many of these might have found work anyway. Education and training are clearly important. But there is a risk that by emphasising education and training as much as it does JET has discouraged lone parents from making jobs they might otherwise have accepted.

Lone parents need jobs, not training

Next Monday, the Shadow Social Security Secretary, Chris Smith, will unveil Labour's welfare spending plans, and he has already signalled that his approach will draw on Australia's programme for Jobs, Education and Training (JET). I have just returned from a fact-finding trip to Australia, where serious questions are now being raised about JET's effectiveness — questions which Mr Smith will have to answer.

The aim of JET is laudable. It seeks to help single parents to overcome the barriers to work by assisting with education, training and job search. Lone parents are interviewed by JET advisers before being passed to other agencies for practical help, including childcare. The Australian Government is conducting a detailed study of JET's cost-effectiveness. We heard evidence which clearly contradicted initial claims that JET was self-financing. Reported figures apparently ignored the cost of most state-funded childcare, and took credit for all lone parents who found work, even though many would have returned to work even without JET's help. So the true cost of JET has been underestimated. But even before these factors are taken into account, the official figures show that in its first five years JET has cost taxpayers more than it saved.

Even more interesting were reports that JET, in addition to being costly, may not actually be helping lone parents back to work. In any one year only about 10 per cent of JET's clients found work, and many of these might have found work anyway. Education and training are clearly important. But there is a risk that by emphasising education and training as much as it does JET has discouraged lone parents from making jobs they might otherwise have accepted.

By far the best result was the one I visited in Riverside county in California, which increased client's earnings by more than \$3,000 over three years. Its approach, based on an active search for employment using job clubs, has since been

copied by Los Angeles. This county had previously failed its clients because it concentrated too much on training and too little on encouraging people to take jobs. Now it has increased its job placement rate by 300 per cent in three years.

California's "work first" scheme, Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN), is encapsulated in its motto "a job, a better job, a career". GAIN focuses on getting people into jobs, however modest, and recognises that work experience is often the best qualification for a better job.

Next April, the Government will pilot a major new scheme to help lone parents find work. We will be studying the JET and GAIN programmes carefully to make sure that our pilot avoids the mistakes and emulates the successes of schemes in other countries.

But our singleminded intention is to ensure that a paying job results — to the advantage of the lone parent as well as the taxpayer.

Andrew Mitchell, MP, is the Minister at the Department of Social Security with responsibility for the Child Support Agency and lone parent issues.

The greatest show on earth

We grumble about the Millennium Exhibition, but we shall be glad of it

There is always a right time for a party. There is never a right time for a party. For every party-giver there are ten souls with worthy causes clamouring for the money. Yet the world would be a dreary place if it could not celebrate the passage of time. As we meet life's milestones we add a pebble to the pile and raise a defiant glass to the Grim Reaper.

There will be a Millennium Exhibition in London in the year 2000. This week the Millennium Commission (in which I declare an interest) not only confirmed its backing for the Circle of Time project at Greenwich, it also declared the exhibition robust enough to proceed. It will happen. At least £350 million will be involved, of which £200 million is coming from the National Lottery and the rest from business sponsorship.

The commission is not a government department and could not back an exhibition on a wing, a prayer and a bottomless pocket, as is the case with most national exhibitions.

The Millennium Exhibition at Greenwich will be the most spectacular show in Europe. Not Germany, not France, not Italy, certainly not Brussels, have anything comparable in mind. The Circle of Time proposed by Gary Withers and his team at Imaginart will be unveiled next month. At the top of the Greenwich peninsula a circular clock of 12 zones, covering a footprint the size of a stadium, will chime away the millennium year. Each pavilion will embrace a temporal theme: past, time future, discovery time, life time, space time, world time. Its motto might be Horace's *Carpe Diem*: seize each day before it escapes.

The exhibition will be unlike any other I have seen, but is loosely based on the "experience" shows popular in America. These make use of multimedia, audiovisual and interactive displays, as at America's Smithsonian Museum and the burgeoning scienceatoriums. Just as zoos visitors no longer want to see animals in cages, so exhibition visitors are no longer overawed by objects in cases or pictures on walls. They look to be

to feel that this is partly its show.

There is no point in disputing that the millennium concept has brought out the British genius for paradox. As a frequent sceptic of such rituals, I have found it salutary to encounter the fierce cynicism with which many Britons approach anything that smacks of celebration. Thus, if an exhibition might celebrate the past, it is shamefully neglecting the future. If it celebrates the world, it is failing to stand up for Britain. If it celebrates Britain, it is narrowly chauvinist. It is outrageous to mount a big show in London, yet equally outrageous to hold a national exhibition anywhere else.

The ambition of the Greenwich show is to sweep aside these paradoxes. The last collective display of British national spirit was the 1951 Festival of Britain.

It was a Herculean undertaking at a time of postwar austerity, its momentum supplied by a small coterie of like-minded designers and exhibitors. Despite appalling weather, the South Bank show was a success because it was completed with panache. It had stylistic conviction because it was led from the top and from the public sector.

This leadership has been denied

the Millennium Commission. No paradox has been as great as that which underpins the exhibition's constitution. When the Lottery was set up, a Government nervous that funds raised from gambling might be spent by the great and good on personal foibles insisted that the distributors could only make grants. They could not initiate projects themselves. The approach reflected the Thatcherite enthusiasm for privatisation and distaste for public-sector leadership.

In the case of the millennium celebrations, the commission could ask if anyone wanted a celebration, and subsidise it. It could not propose or plan its own. The exhibition had to be privately sponsored and privately run. This hands-off approach has proved a close-run thing. Central and local government will help with infrastructure. But the exhibition will be in the hands of a private company, chaired by Robert Ayling of British Airways. Its only grant will come from the lottery. Development gain from the project remains a matter of negotiation, but the project is still within its critical path.

Public gambling is a controversial way of financing public projects. Lottery money can easily become a substitute for normal public expenditure. One virtue of the lottery was the insistence that money raised would be for projects that would not normally get taxpayer support. For the arts, sport and local and national charities the money is mostly for one-off buildings or other capital works, not for routine costs covered by internal revenue or existing public expenditure. The lottery is for the exceptional, the not-absolutely-necessary, the minority case. This has given lottery projects a status distinct from, say, hospitals and schools and protected them from the harsh language of priorities.

Namely, whenever other people's money is used in this way there are cries of unfair. The welfare state always sings the best tunes. With public investment under perpetual squeeze in Britain, those who claim any money for public buildings must, I believe, be prepared to stand up and defend them. The Millennium Exhibition is such a project. It is likely to cost

the lottery £200 million. Many of Britain's biggest companies have supported it with their sponsorship. Both the Government and the Opposition are determined it should go ahead. But the challenge is on to prove the game worth this giant candle.

In one of his more poignant comments on the British, Burke said that "those who carry on great public schemes must be proof against the most fatiguing delays, the most mortifying disappointments, the most shocking insults and the presumptuous judgment of the ignorant on their designs". I am convinced that the Millennium Exhibition can meet such a challenge, but only by being sensational, by its sheer quality, by exciting and astonishing the world. Britain is constantly accused of no longer being able to stage something truly big and spectacular — something to which the Victorian epithet great could be applied. I believe it can.

Simon Jenkins is a member of the Millennium Commission.

"And I'm hoping to bump into an old boozing buddy. I can't remember his name but he was a fat man who drank all day long." Now there aren't many people of that description in Scotland, I'm sure.

• Fancy footwork from Tony Blair's First AJ. His office has rescheduled the launch of a document called Road to the Manifesto on June 26 in case it clashes with an England semi-final. As I reported this week, the Prime Minister is to make a key speech on the constitution at the Centre for Policy Studies just as the game kicks off. He clearly has less faith in the team than Mr Blair.

Short story

CLARIDGE'S Hotel has narrowly escaped a drags and dwarfs orgy, if the writer Will Self is to be believed. Self enjoys boasting of his consumption of illegal drugs and recently stayed at the hotel, planning with a group of pals to "lay waste to the minibar" and then consume South American "head-borne barking" powder off the bald pate of a dwarf called Henriques.

It seems his planning was all talk. He managed to drink a fair amount, but felt "hideously out of place" in the hotel. "We couldn't find the wherewithal to trash the place," he writes in *Esquire* magazine.

zine. To cap all this, he didn't manage to take any drugs. His excuse? Henriques cut his head shaving.

Cheek by jowl

COULD they by any chance be related? Craig Livingstone, the director of the White House personnel security office who was dismissed on Wednesday, bears a striking resemblance to one of our most likeable parliamentarians, Lord Strathclyde.

Thomas Strathclyde, a comfortably-built Tory peer who enjoys a good lunch as well as a flutter on the horses, has an unenviable job

as Government Chief Whip in the House of Lords. He was the youngest-ever Privy Counsellor, and he was game enough to take on as his first public engagement the launch of an on-street poop-stoop dispenser scheme. I am assured that, while Livingstone has taken "administrative leave", Strathclyde goes from strength to strength.

• Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's colt Strangler lived up to its name yesterday in the King's Stand Stakes at Royal Ascot. The nag failed to finish in the first six.

P.H.S

Pink whisky

QUENTIN CRISP, the 88-year-old queen of camp, arrived floppy-hatted in Edinburgh from New York yesterday to launch his own brand of whisky, the Quentin Crisp Single Cask. Despite rumblings among some of the more traditional kilt-wearers, Scotland's homosexual community has been hailing this as the world's first whisky for gays.

"I'm looking forward to having a little drink of whisky later on," said the frail old gent when he arrived.

This leadership has been denied



And I'm hoping to bump into an old boozing buddy. I can't remember his name but he was a fat man who drank all day long. Now there aren't many people of that description in Scotland, I'm sure.

• Fancy footwork from Tony Blair's First AJ. His office has rescheduled the launch of a document called Road to the Manifesto on June 26 in case it clashes with an England semi-final. As I reported this week, the Prime Minister is to make a key speech on the constitution at the Centre for Policy Studies just as the game kicks off. He clearly has less faith in the team than Mr Blair.

Short story

CLARIDGE'S Hotel has narrowly escaped a drags and dwarfs orgy, if the writer Will Self is to be believed. Self enjoys boasting of his consumption of illegal drugs and recently stayed at the hotel, planning with a group of pals to "lay waste to the minibar" and then consume South American "head-borne barking" powder off the bald pate of a dwarf called Henriques.

It seems his planning was all talk. He managed to drink a fair amount, but felt "hideously out of place" in the hotel. "We couldn't find the wherewithal to trash the place," he writes in *Esquire* magazine.

zine. To cap all this, he didn't manage to take any drugs. His excuse? Henriques cut his head shaving.

Cheek by jowl

COULD they by any chance be related? Craig Livingstone, the director of the White House personnel security office who was dismissed on Wednesday, bears a striking resemblance to one of our most likeable parliamentarians, Lord Strathclyde.

Thomas Strathclyde, a comfortably-built Tory peer who enjoys a good lunch as well as a flutter on the horses, has an unenviable job

as Government Chief Whip in the House of Lords. He was the youngest-ever Privy Counsellor, and he was game enough to take on as his first public engagement the launch of an on-street poop-stoop dispenser scheme. I am assured that, while Livingstone has taken "administrative leave", Strathclyde goes from strength to strength.

• Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's colt Strangler lived up to its name yesterday in the King's Stand Stakes at Royal Ascot. The nag failed to finish in the first six.

P.H.S



A HUMAN WRONG

Britain must find better remedies for unfounded asylum claims

The Government's policy of depriving some categories of applicants for refugee status of social security benefits, in force since February, has received a stinging rebuke in the Court of Appeal. By a majority of two to one, the judges found that the regulations introduced by Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, are an unlawful pre-emption of the will of Parliament. The Government claims that it lost only on the "narrow" issue that primary legislation is necessary. On the contrary: the court's findings rested on the broadest possible basis.

In the words of Lord Justice Simon Brown, these regulations "necessarily contemplate for some a life so destitute that to my mind no civilised nation can tolerate it. So basic are the human rights here at issue that it cannot be necessary to resort to the European Convention on Human Rights to take note of their violation." He had no quarrel with Mr Lilley's aim of discouraging economic migrants from pursuing asylum claims. But he insisted that Parliament cannot have intended the actual result, which is to force genuine asylum-seekers either to abandon their claims to refugee status, or to persist while reduced to "a state of utter destitution". Lord Justice Waite, assenting, argued that it rendered the rights of a very large number of asylum-seekers — rights recognised by Britain under international law — "valueless in practice".

The Government's case is twofold: that Britain's generous benefits have encouraged a surge of bogus claims; and that British taxpayers should not be expected to support people whose claims are spurious. It has therefore abolished benefits for two large categories of applicants — those who applied only after arriving in this country, rather than at the port of entry, and those waiting for their appeals against rejected applications to be heard. It argues, further, that bogus applications have clogged up the system of review, and that this deterrent will speed it up to the benefit of genuine refugees.

The problem with regulations drafted so

sweepingly is that they affect genuine refugees along with bogus claimants. One example illustrates how ill-conceived this is. The Government this week accepted a Lords amendment to the Bill, agreeing that individuals who claim that they have been tortured are entitled to a specially thorough consideration of their claim. But if they fall into these two wide categories, they will still be deprived of benefits.

In the four months that these regulations have been in force, there has been some diminution in applications for asylum. But the backlog of unheard applications is still 67,630. Even with extended "fast track" procedures, new claims take an average of 19 months to process. Some take far longer: at the end of last year, 15 per cent of those who applied for asylum in 1991 still had not had their cases heard: the appeals process can take up to three years. Deprived of benefits and in many cases forbidden to work, how are those in this long queue to live? By begging? By crime? There is a case for adopting the practice followed in other European countries, where asylum-seekers receive hostel accommodation and essentials but little or no cash. There is none for discriminatory deprivation.

There is a better way to lighten the burden on taxpayers, deter bogus applicants and lessen the agony of prolonged uncertainty for genuine refugees. It is to the evident malfunctioning in the Home Office — and in the deportation services, which secure the departure from Britain of only a tiny percentage of those whose applications are finally rejected — that ministers should look. The Dutch Government processes 16 per cent of applicants within 24 hours, and immediately deports those it rejects. It cannot be beyond the powers of invention for Britain to speed up its procedures. The denial of benefits is the wrong remedy for the problem that the Government seeks to address. To persist in this mistaken policy would be to compound the injustice identified by their lordships.

FLORENTINE RIDDLES

Plots, subplots and no definite script for the final act

Niccolò Machiavelli, that Florentine master of political intrigue, would have looked with some amusement upon the *commedia* being acted out this week in his home city. Each character claims to have played a trick upon the other; and in an arcane subplot, the prince's adviser tries to advance his own interests at his master's expense.

First David Davis: as Machiavelli wrote nearly half a millennium ago, "when you see that the adviser thinks more about himself than about you, and that in all his deeds he seeks his own interests, such a man as this will never be a good adviser and you will never be able to trust him." Mr Davis deserves a Cabinet post in the next reshuffle. But, if he gets one, John Major's decision would be characterised by the Renaissance sage as "excessive mercy".

Secondly, to the main plot: the beef deal hammered out and agreed yesterday, is, according to the British, a triumph. A new concession was seemingly added at the last minute on exports to third countries. The wording ensures that decisions about lifting the beef ban will be taken purely on scientific and public health grounds by the European Commission. Member states will not be able to object to its decision, and nor will politics be allowed to intrude.

This is a hope more than a claim. As an article of fact it has as much force as a love song from a Florentine waiter. Our partners remain wary. The third country addendum was instantly dismissed as meaningless by representatives of other member states. The British may be delighted that decisions are to be uncloaked by politics. The others see the clause as protecting their own public health from Britain's politics.

SCOTT'S MYTHS

Spinning yarns can inspire as much as spinning webs

Scotland is the land of myths and bold untruthfulness. Tall tales are woven around Caledonian heroes thicker than any Harris tweed. From Bonnie Prince Charlie's flight through the heather to Birnam Wood's march on Dunsinane the stories of Scotland's past are particularly embroidered in the telling. Like the Faerie Flag that hangs behind glass in Dunvegan Castle, most of these myths are too beautiful, fragile and inspiring to bear too close an inspection.

Now one of the most precious stories ever attached to the name of a Great Scot has fallen subject to rude revisionism. Historians say that Robert the Bruce never saw the spider whose persistence spurred him to try and try again. Arguing that Bruce never encountered the energetic arachnid is akin to claiming that William Tell was a bad shot, that George Washington framed the footman for the cherry tree incident or that El Cid couldn't handle a horse. It is a direct hit on the reputation of a nation's founding father. In Bruce's case, it is all the more wounding for most likely being true.

As we report on page 15 no mention of Bruce's seeing the spider was made in the first account of his life, *The Bruce*, a 14th century epic poem by the Aberdonian cleric John Barbour. The first occasion on which a spider story surfaces in a printed source is in Home of Godscroft's chronicle of the doings of the Douglas family where Bruce's gener-

al, the Black Douglas, is said to have been inspired by the plucky little fellow. Douglas was one of the tiny band who stayed true to Bruce in the dark days before victory — a slim source of historical hope for his politically embattled descendant, the Scots Tory MP Lord James Douglas-Hamilton.

The spider was snatched, so to speak, from Douglas's grasp and thrown into Bruce's lap by Scotland's most elegant mythmaker, Sir Walter Scott. The Laird of Abbotsford was past master at playing fast and loose with fact and fiction. He put the Hanoverian King George IV in a pantomime version of the Highland dress his ancestor had once proscribed. In his novels, Scott made heroes of Whiggish Covenanters and Tory Jacobites alike: his historical tapestry was as complex, colourful, bewitching and bogus as any souvenir tartan.

Behind all Scott's ingenuity lay the Romantic Tory wish to construct a glorious past for Scots that would help them to flourish in the Union as proud partner rather than sulken satellite. In order to serve the greater truth, that Scotland had much to be proud of, Scott took liberties with smaller truths, such as which bonny fechter was inspired in his cave by the spider. Scott's story may have been as flimsily fixed to evidence as was the spider's web to the cave. But, as Scott knew well, not even Scotland's cause is so noble that it can do without a spin-doctor.

Teaching teachers classroom criteria

From Mr Michael Reading

Sir, I welcome your leading article today emphasising the need for newly qualified teachers to have an adequate level of practical classroom skills, but I am puzzled by the Education Secretary's apparent sudden need to establish a national curriculum for teacher training courses.

Governors and others appointing teachers rely on the fact that those teachers are "recognised" as qualified by Mrs Shepherd's own department — as evidenced by the teacher's individual Department for Employment and Education number — and on the fact that the teacher will have achieved qualified teacher status by successful completion of a course which the DfEE has recognised or approved.

Are we now to assume that the Education Department has been granted approval for such courses without having any minimum criteria of what is required in the classroom, but now magically has all the answers? Or have the Secretary of State and her predecessors been presiding over a department which knew all the time what was required — but failed in its duty to use that knowledge?

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL READING,
Haven House,
364 Chessington Road, Ewell, Surrey.
June 13.

From Mrs R. Poerskis

Sir, I reacted with incredulous laughter to the idea that teachers' colleges should teach teachers the basic skills of teaching. What, might I ask, is taught at the moment?

Yours faithfully,
R. POERSKIS,
46 The Woodlands,
Market Harborough, Leicestershire.
June 13.

From Mr Steve Mills

Sir, I was disappointed to see your leading article recycling tired old prejudices about what goes on inside teacher-training institutions. No lecturers known to me "spend a large proportion of their time talking about the psychology of education", not least because, under the Government circulars 16/89 and 14/93, there simply isn't time for such perceived frivolity.

Of course, the distillation of best practice ought to be central to what goes on in our teacher training. It will come as a surprise to those who do not wish for facts to intrude upon a good prejudice, that it already is.

Yours disappointedly,
S. J. MILLS,
65 Norton Road,
Woolley, Reading, Berkshire.
June 13.

From Mrs E. Graham

Sir, I couldn't agree more with your leading article that the best place for trainee teachers to learn is in school.

Over 30 years ago, when I was at teacher-training college in Scotland, students in the first year were sent on teaching practice every Friday — even in the first week of the first term. Nervous as we all were it proved to be invaluable. Our experiences were used in discussions Monday to Thursday in both the refectory and in the lecture rooms.

In the second year we went to another school for a whole term. By the end of our third and final year we had observed a variety of teaching methods used by experienced members of staff in three different schools. We appreciated also the many unforeseen everyday problems which can arise when coping with a class of children.

Yours faithfully,
E. GRAHAM,
18 Brighton Road, Banstead, Surrey.
June 17.

From Dr Gordon Van Praagh

Sir, According to George Bernard Shaw, "He who can, does. He who cannot, teaches". I would add: "He who cannot teach, trains teachers."

Yours faithfully,
GORDON VAN PRAAGH,
25 Blackwater Lane,
Crawley, West Sussex.
June 18.

As she is wrote

From Mr Richard Finer

Sir, It is normally hoped that students emerging from our universities are well educated and more knowledgeable than they were in their chosen field of study. What is not explained in the prospectuses is that students, like me, who want to enjoy any sort of social life must first learn another language.

I refer, of course, to the corrupted form of English which nightclubs and bars, amongst others, feel they must use to communicate to their clients. We are constantly told that there will be cheap drinks all night, and that entry is £11pm. If all this is not enough, a university friend wrote to me expressing her thanks and ended by sending me *losa lus*.

Doesn't anybody write the Queen's English anymore?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD FINER,
24 Jesmond Way,
Stanmore, Middlesex.
June 19.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Teaching teachers

classroom criteria

From Mr George J. Levy

Sir, Next month the important pair of side tables made for Chiswick House, which surely should be returned to Chiswick, are to be sold. This sale highlights once again the imponderables of raising sufficient funds before an auction to ensure the success of keeping furniture, paintings or other works of art of national importance in this country, when the owner prefers the auction gamble to offering such artefacts directly to the nation (letters, May 27; June 17).

Auction is, of course, a means of establishing the open-market value which a buyer is prepared to pay. But the nation knows that if the destination is overseas the Reviewing Committee of the Export of Works of Art is waiting in the wings to put a temporary stop to the object leaving the country. This is in order to give our institutions an opportunity of raising matching funds to keep the object in Britain. But isn't this a bit like using a sledgehammer to crack a nut?

In any case, the procedure poses problems for both vendors and purchasers. The vendor receives neither funds nor interest on the capital during the period of the export stop (which in certain circumstances could be as long as two years); and the overseas buyer is kept in suspense during this period, not knowing if he will ever

own what he has purchased.

A far more satisfactory method might be to encourage owners, in the first instance, to seek the advice of the Museums and Galleries Commission in establishing, through independent assessors, a fair value with which a deal could be struck privately with the nation. The MGC already takes on this responsibility well for the Government when works of art are ceded to the nation in satisfaction of inheritance tax. Why not also for cases such as the Chiswick tables — only using auction as a last resort?

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE J. LEVY,
H. Blairman & Sons Ltd,
119 Mount Street, W1.
June 21.

From the Director of the Tate Gallery

Sir, I fully support the comments made by the Chairman of the Museums and Galleries Commission (letter, June 17) on the 1994 refusal of an export licence for *The Painter's Room* by Lucian Freud (1943).

This case raises two issues about the export of work by living artists. The first is whether there should be such a ban, and it is my view that there will be rare occasions when the early work of a living artist is of such quality that a stop is appropriate.

The Secretary of State for National

Heritage is currently asking for views on this and the Tate has submitted a paper which argues that a stop should depend on the merit of the work, rather than whether the artist is alive or dead. The export licensing rules are there to allow Britain to retain truly outstanding works of any period.

There is also the problem of what happens when the export is stopped, a public institution makes an offer of the full value, but the exporter wants neither to sell nor to display the work in Britain. The purchaser of this Freud has declined an offer from the Tate Gallery, which was made with the support of the Friends of the Tate Gallery, the National Art Collections Fund and the National Heritage Memorial Fund.

In view of Mr J. W. T. Martin's comments (letter, May 27) I think it should be explained that works of art (along with drugs and armaments) are exempt from the European Community's principle of free movement of goods. Also that the British Government's rules controlling the export of works of art are exceptionally fair, and that in many countries the export of such a painting would simply not be allowed in any circumstances.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS SEROTA,
Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1.
June 19.

Fair methods of controlling the export of works of art

From Mr Tim Renton, MP for Mid Sussex (Conservative)

Sir, Your leader, "The fallen mighty" (June 18), totally misses the point of the Commons motion on standards of reporting in the press signed by more than 50 MPs, including seven from the Opposition.

It does not demand more space on your pages for House of Commons debates or stories. It asks for a higher standard, from the broadsheets, of the reporting and analysis of current affairs, including politics, and suggests that "the editors of those national papers that aim to contribute significantly to opinion-forming should demonstrate a more serious and less personal approach, and seek to achieve more balanced coverage and comment in relation to public issues and political development".

Less personal? Your leader names me five times, imputing — surprisingly and extraneously — various malevolent intentions to me because I am a known pro-European. The relevance escapes me. From the tone of the leader, I suspect that our dart has hit a bulls-eye in Wapping.

Yours truly,
TIM RENTON,
House of Commons,
June 19.

From Sir Timothy Sainsbury, MP for Hove (Conservative), and Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, MP for Wealden (Conservative)

Sir, There was widespread agreement about the importance of the Family

Law Bill. The report stage on Monday covered a number of important amendments, some of which were subject to free votes.

Your front page report refers to a number of amendments. If any of your readers wished to know what the amendments were, however, or how they were decided, they would have looked in vain.

They were referred to page 2, where Matthew Paris wrote his parliamentary sketch with his customary skill and wit, or to page 18 where a feature by Libby Purves recognised the importance of family life and divorce.

Those who received early editions were also referred to page 8, headed "Politics and Government", where your legal correspondent detailed the changes in the new law, but this did not appear in the later editions.

Yet the Tuesday paper had space for two pages on the way we eat, major reports on Maryland crab fishers and archaeological research at the Tower of London. Page 3 had the headlines: "Woman suffered severe trauma after stripogram" and "Husband threw wife overboard in marital storm".

Is this what you mean when your editorial defend your paper's failure to report Parliament on the grounds that you are concerned about "the use of power where it is exercised"?

Yours faithfully,
TIM SAINSBURY,
GEOFFREY JOHNSON SMITH,
House of Commons.
June 19.

Standard of current affairs reporting

From Mr J. Enoch Powell

Sir, Congratulations on Simon Jenkins's contribution on Northern Ireland ("Death of a Peace Process", June 19). The only salvation for Northern Ireland is to govern it like any other part of the United Kingdom, that is to say with local government having responsibility but only for the same subjects as in the rest of the United Kingdom, which remain to be dealt with by Parliament, where Ulster is fully represented.

That is the only way to entrench the Union and put an end to the hopes of the IRA, which will carry on as long as there is a prospect of detaching Ulster from Britain.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
ENOCH POWELL,
33 South Eaton Square, SW1.
June 20.

Painted ladies

From Dr Denis F. Owen

Sir, It is not just East Anglia that has received swarms of painted lady butterflies (news in brief, June 12). Reports from around the country suggest a huge northward migration on a front extending from East Kent to Dorset and the Gower Peninsula.

On June 7, assisted by a warm southerly wind, they migrated northward through my garden at a rate of 72 an hour. The migration continued non-stop for seven hours. Over 500 must have passed through the garden on a front about 10 metres wide. These figures indicate a phenomenal northward movement on just one day.

My garden has also received exceptional numbers of immigrant moths, especially silver-Ys and rush veneers, as well as rarer species, such as borded straw and small mottled willows.

OBITUARIES

THE REV DAVID NICHOLLS

The Rev David Nicholls, priest and theologian, died while undergoing surgery in Oxford on June 13 aged 60. He was born in Woking on June 3, 1936.

DAVID NICHOLLS was a rare phenomenon in today's world of professional pigeon-holing: a writer of important and influential academic works who never held a mainstream academic post, a theologian whom the Church of England found it difficult to accommodate.

He was amused as well as irritated by his lack of recognition and ecclesiastical preferment. He knew, perhaps, that to be appointed to one of the chairs for which he applied would, in fact, have been to enter a bureaucratic trap. *Faute de mieux*, therefore, he came to live as an old-style country parson of the best sort, working since 1978 in the parish of St Mary's Littlemore, near Oxford (and thus near the Bodleian Library), and issuing a far more substantial stream of books and articles — in qualitative as well as in quantitative terms — than those who got the jobs for which he applied. He made theology matter in the world of secular academia; and he showed religious people that good intentions and kindly thinking are not enough.

Nicholls was influential in three main areas of writing. He was a leading authority on Haiti, his views being summarised in *From Dessalines to Duvalier: race, colour and national independence* (1979), which has become a classic, *Economic dependence and political autonomy: the Haitian experience* (1974), and *Haiti in Caribbean context: ethnicity, economy and revolt* (1985). He travelled frequently and sometimes dangerously there and in the rest of the Caribbean and was much in demand as a speaker, especially in the United States.

Yet his doctoral thesis had been on a quite different subject: the British theological political theorist John Neville Figgis, for which he was supervised in Cambridge by Alec Vidler. Never published as such, its analysis of pluralism appeared as *Church and State in Britain since 1820* (1967), *Three Varieties of Pluralism* (1974) and *The Pluralist State* (1975) and in a stream of articles with titles such as "The totalitarianism of Thomas Arnold" and "Few are chosen: some reflections on the politics of A.J. Balfour".

Nicholls was a sharp analyst of Victorian theology with none of the integrating ecumenism fashionable today. His many articles on John Henry Newman (whose own old parish at Littlemore he held) were blistering attacks on what he saw as Newman's vacuous, self-indulgent, unadmitted authoritarianism. He powerfully disliked Henry Scott Holland and the liberal catholicism characterised by the *Lux Mundi* movement.



Nicholls then broadened his interest in the relations of Church and State into what he saw as his credo: a trilogy, working from the present backwards, examining the symbiotic relationship of theology, philosophy and politics in England. The first two volumes were *Deity and Dominion: Images of God and State in the 19th and 20th Centuries* (1989) [given as the Hulsean Lectures at Cambridge] and *God and Government in an Age of Reason* (1995); the third volume entitled *Despotism and Doubt* he left unfinished.

Nicholls also wrote frequently on contemporary theology, often candidly critical of the Church to which he belonged, but always amusingly and consistently showing a strong, untroubled faith. He recognised and tried to come to terms, at the highest level of scholarly debate, with the intellectual complexities of the language and interpretation of theology in its necessary relationship to the world of men and women — but his personal belief was not complex but essentially straightforward and orthodox. His substantial body of writings will undoubtedly one day come to be seen as one of the most remarkable scholarly achievements in today's Anglican Communion.

David Gwyn Nicholls was educated at Woking Grammar School, the

London School of Economics (where he won the Laski and the Gladstone prizes), and King's College, Cambridge, where he completed his PhD in 1962; he then went to Yale Divinity School and Winchester Theological College. In 1962 he was made deacon and in 1963 was ordained priest. From 1966 to 1973 he lectured in Trinidad and acquired there a legendary taste for cigars, as well as his lifelong fascination with the politics of the Caribbean.

There then followed five years when he was chaplain and Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford. Somewhat to his surprise, Oxford turned out to be his long-term home. The university, rather belatedly, recognised his ability with a D.Litt in 1991.

He was much influenced by Chesty Jones, his Principal at Chichester, who had launched Nicholls' clerical career by placing him in a curacy under Gordon Phillips, then chaplain to London University, at St George's, Bloomsbury. Chesty Jones, who remained a close friend, went on to be Principal of the dominant Anglo-Catholic institution in Oxford, Pusey House. Nicholls himself was an unostentatious Anglo-Catholic who, characteristically, complained of various aspects of the movement and its practitioners. It was entirely typical of

him that he took pride in opposing the opposition to women priests.

Nicholls always refused to live in an ivory tower. He was connected with many bodies, such as St Antony's College, Oxford, Oxfam, the *Political Quarterly*, the Centre for Caribbean Studies at Warwick, and the Latin American Bureau. With Valerie Pitt and Ken Leech, he came into the Christendom Group in the 1960s and, with Canon V.A. Demant and Maurice Reckitt, he helped to form the Christendom Trust, chairing it from 1992.

This last, and his association with the Jubilee Trust, reflected Nicholls's somewhat anarchic Christian socialism. He certainly disliked, and enjoyed ridiculing, the political Right, but was in no sense a regular member of the political Left. William Temple was one of his *héros noirs*: he approved of the benefits but hated the accompanying bureaucracy of the modern welfare state. He was a member of the Labour Party but ridiculed — and never felt at home in — its ponderous structure.

His tendency towards anarchic views on secular matters made him an uneasy member of the Established Church. In the parish of Littlemore, however, he was a well organised and much-loved parish priest, his parishioners for the most part unaware of his international academic standing. He ran the church and the parish, and chaired the school governors, with the craftsmanship which came from a lifetime of suspicion of authority. His striking presence — grey head and beard and Latin American poncho arriving by motorcycle — was accompanied by great physical and intellectual charm. Nicholls quickly transmitted his restless curiosity, though he often thought too fast to have time to absorb the response.

In 1968 he married Gillian Sleight, who became a distinguished consultant paediatrician and whose emotional stability was critical to the maintenance of Nicholls's own intellectual and psychological balance. Their household had an important third member — an abusive, brightly-feathered macaw from Trinidad, named Archdeacon Paley, after the 18th-century theologian. The Archdeacon was a frequent and rebarbative writer to the newspapers; he often elicited indignant replies from bruised academics and church people who did not spot the joke. William Paley was on occasion Nicholls's *nom de plume* when covering Haitian elections for *The Daily Telegraph*. In a curious coincidence, shortly after the Archdeacon died and had his death announced in the newspapers, Nicholls himself suffered a split artery in his neck. He died in the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, during an operation to put it right.

He leaves his widow Gillian. There were no children of the marriage.

He leaves his widow Gillian. There were no children of the marriage.

ROBERT CAMPBELL-PRESTON



Robert Campbell-Preston of Ardmacrahan, OBE, MC, Vice-Lieutenant of Argyll and Bute, 1976-90, died on June 14 aged 87. He was born on January 7, 1909.

A SOLDIER, sportsman and businessman, Robert Campbell-Preston was a Highland laird of the old school who served his country — and his county — with dedication and distinction.

Robert Modan Thorne Campbell-Preston was born into a family that had been in possession of Ardmacrahan Priory, on the north shore of Loch Etive near Oban, more or less since the Reformation when much land previously owned by the Church had been expropriated and handed over to the nobility and gentry. Ardmacrahan was acquired by Alexander, the grandson of Campbell of Crawford, in 1602.

Campbell-Preston was educated first at Eton, where he was master of beagles, and then at Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated BA. He then entered business but also maintained his family's military traditions, being commissioned in 1927 as a lieutenant in the Scottish Horse, one of the Scotland's yeomanry regiments operating within the TA. It had been founded during the Boer War by the Marquess of Tullibardine and commanding officer of the title of the heir to the Duke of Atholl, a connection which Campbell-Preston was to maintain.

When the Second World War broke out, the Scottish Horse formed the 79th and 80th Medium Regiments of the Royal Artillery. Though

had long been a staple of the Highland economy, and alginate, one of its by-products, has many applications in the food, drugs and other industries. The company was eventually bought by Kelco.

He sat on the old Argyll County Council. He became a deputy Lieutenant of the county in 1951 and served as Vice-Lieutenant for 14 years from 1976. He was a member of the Royal Company of Archers, the Queen's Bodyguard for Scotland.

Campbell-Preston was a skilful stalker, a fine shot and an artful fisherman. He took much pleasure in imparting his knowledge to the young, with whom he had a great empathy: he was known as "Uncle Bobby" to many with whom he had no connection by blood. To them, and sometimes old comrades down on their luck, he showed great kindness.

With his wife, who died in 1981, he shared a passion for gardening. He continued after her death to find much fulfilment in the garden at Ardmacrahan, often opened to the public in aid of charity.

He is survived by his daughter.

DAVID SCHINE

David Schine, former aide to Senator Joe McCarthy, died in a plane crash in California on June 19 aged 68. He was born on September 11, 1927.

DAVID SCHINE's remembered role in American history is not one that he would have chosen. Wealthy and fervently anti-communist, he had graduated from Harvard to become president of his father's chain of hotels when Roy Cohn, an old college friend, recruited him to become unpaid chief consultant to Senator Joe McCarthy's permanent sub-committee on investigations in 1953. Ironically, Schine was destined to be the unwitting final nail in McCarthy's coffin.

Together with Cohn, who was then serving as chief counsel to the committee, Schine set about exposing alleged communist influence in the United Nations, the State Department and the Voice of America. Then McCarthy sent them to Europe, where the pair were charged with investigating leftist subversion in a wide range of US agencies. To the worldwide European press, especially the British tabloids, the spectacle of two young

men chasing all over the Continent in search of reds under every diplomatic or agency bed seemed risible.

But they were no laughing matter to Americans serving overseas. In the paranoid atmosphere then prevailing several officials lost their jobs as a result of their allegations.

Then, in the autumn of 1953, Schine was drafted into the US Army as a common private. McCarthy, in an effort to make life easier for his young protégé, apparently tried to use his influence, unsuccessfully, to get Schine commissioned as an officer. The affair came to light, and McCarthy's enemies in the Senate seized the opportunity to hold public hearings into the televised hearings into the affair.

McCarthy, who at the time was allegedly communist infiltration in the Army, was hoist with his own petard. Although the 36-day televised hearing was inconclusive, his conduct on the witness stand — particularly when under cross-examination by the Army counsel, Joseph N. Welch — was so egregious that it led to a vote of censure against him in the Senate on December 2, 1954. McCarthy's power was broken, and he died three years later.

Schine completed his military service in Alaska, never rising above the rank of corporal, and abandoned politics to return to managing his father's \$150 million business interests. These he expanded into the film industry, where his greatest success lay in being executive producer of *The French Connection* in 1971.

Later there was a less happy chapter. He and Cohn attempted to sue Universal Studios and NBC for \$40 million in 1977, alleging that they had been defamed by a television film about McCarthy entitled *Tailorunner Joe* (a reference to a claim that the Wisconsin senator always made for his war service that was totally untrue). But their case was thrown out by a New York appellate court.

In later years, David Schine served on the boards of a number of charities, mostly connected with the arts. He died when his single-engine aircraft crashed shortly after take-off from Burbank, California. His wife Hilevi, Miss Universe of 1955, was also killed, as was his 35-year-old son Berndt, who was at the controls. He is survived by four other sons and one daughter.

SIR HARRY CAMPION



Sir Harry Campion, CB, CBE, Director of the Central Statistical Office, 1941-67, died on May 24 aged 90. He was born on May 29, 1905.

AS THE first Director of the Central Statistical Office, Harry Campion was a principal architect of the modern system of statistics. With the outbreak of the Second World War, he was summoned from a readership in statistics at Manchester University to join Lord Stamp's group. Their job was to provide the War Cabinet with economic information for the war effort.

The group grew and split between the economists and the statisticians, and Campion was put in charge of the newly formed Central Statistical Office (CSO) in 1941. The function of the CSO was to co-ordinate the flood of often discordant information coming from the departments; to organise the collection of important missing data; and to present the results in consistent form.

Under the vigorous pressure of Maynard Keynes at the Treasury, a body of statistics covering the whole of the national economy had been called for, to facilitate the allocation of wartime resources. In 1941 the first official statistics of national income were issued.

With the end of the war, Campion devoted his efforts to preserving and amplifying the improved statistics and to extending the network to meet new needs. These included the commitment to high employment and the policy implications of the Beveridge report. Campion organised a detailed review by the departmental statistical sections of all branches of statistics. The harmonising of definitions required much laborious work. But Campion did at last achieve a set of agreed classifications (for instance, the Standard Industrial Classification) to be used by all.

Campion was brought up in Worsley in the heart of the Lancashire cotton industry. He was educated at

Farnworth Grammar School and at Manchester University, where he was first a lecturer, and then Reader in Statistics. He also took part in the newly formed economic research division which was one of the few university centres employing full-time researchers in economics.

Campion produced here his two pieces of original research: an estimate of national wealth and its division be-

tween private and public ownership, and another study of foreign trade costs. After the war, the widening range of official statistics and their increasing importance in policy led Campion to play a major part in establishing a stronger professional status for statisticians. This included a specialised grade within the Civil Service with its own career structure and salary scale; and the need for suitable academic qualification.

Campion's view of the function of the statistician, especially in public service, was somewhat Puritan. That function was to present the measured or measurable facts in a coherent form with full attention to the small print. If there are unavoidable gaps in the data, it was for the official statistician, to interpolate, extrapolate or, worst of all, to guess.

Campion recognised the great value of the electronic computer for manipulation of mass data, although he deplored the cooking of elaborate

mathematical concoctions with little care for the quality of the ingredients. He was in favour of the widest circulation of well-established official statistics. But he was cautious in promoting publicity, leaving that mainly to the professional information services. He did, however, take an active interest in the format and clarity of the statistical publications (introducing, for example, the use of Gill sans-serif font for tabular printing).

Campion became a kind of "doyen" of the profession, especially in public service, was somewhat Puritan. That function was to present the measured or measurable facts in a coherent form with full attention to the small print. If there are unavoidable gaps in the data, it was for the official statistician, to interpolate, extrapolate or, worst of all, to guess.

Campion was unmarried and lived with his sister.

He played an active part in the Royal Statistical Society, of which he became president, 1957-59. The CSO was also active in the international field, and Campion was selected, in 1946, as the first Director of the Statistical Office of the United Nations. He was appointed CBE in 1945, CB in 1949 and knighted in 1957. He retired at the age of 61 in 1967.

Despite Campion's unassuming manner, and often obscurely expressed pronouncements, he earned the respect of senior civil servants throughout Europe. He was charged with investigating leftist subversion in a wide range of US agencies. To the worldwide European press, especially the British tabloids, the spectacle of two young

men chasing all over the Continent in search of reds under every diplomatic or agency bed seemed risible. But they were no laughing matter to Americans serving overseas. In the paranoid atmosphere then prevailing several officials lost their jobs as a result of their allegations.

Then, in the autumn of 1953, Schine was drafted into the US Army as a common private. McCarthy, in an effort to make life easier for his young protégé, apparently tried to use his influence, unsuccessfully, to get Schine commissioned as an officer. The affair came to light, and McCarthy's enemies in the Senate seized the opportunity to hold public hearings into the televised hearings into the affair.

McCarthy, who at the time was allegedly communist infiltration in the Army, was hoist with his own petard. Although the 36-day televised hearing was inconclusive, his conduct on the witness stand — particularly when under cross-examination by the Army counsel, Joseph N. Welch — was so egregious that it led to a vote of censure against him in the Senate on December 2, 1954. McCarthy's power was broken, and he died three years later.

PERSONAL COLUMN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRUSTEE ACTS

TRUSTEE ACTS

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s.277 of the Trustee Act, 1926 that any person having a claim against the Estate of any of the deceased persons mentioned in the Schedule and whose names and addresses are set out below is hereby required to make known to the executors and administrators of the estate of the deceased persons the nature and extent of the claim and interest of which they have to make known.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s.277 of the Trustee Act, 1926 that any person having a claim against the Estate of any of the deceased persons mentioned in the Schedule and whose names and addresses are set out below is hereby required to make known to the executors and administrators of the estate of the deceased persons the nature and extent of the claim and interest of which they have to make known.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s.277 of the Trustee Act, 1926 that any person having a claim against the Estate of any of the deceased persons mentioned in the Schedule and whose names and addresses are set out below is hereby required to make known to the executors and administrators of the estate of the deceased persons the nature and extent of the claim and interest of which they have to make known.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s.277 of the Trustee Act, 1926 that any person having a claim against the Estate of any of the deceased persons mentioned in the Schedule and whose names and addresses are set out below is hereby required to make known to the executors and administrators of the estate of the deceased persons the nature and extent of the claim and interest of which they have to make known.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s.277 of the Trustee Act, 1926 that any person having a claim against the Estate of any of the deceased persons mentioned in the Schedule and whose names and addresses are set out below is hereby required to make known to the executors and administrators of the estate of the deceased persons the nature and extent of the claim and interest of which they have to make known.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s.277 of the Trustee Act, 1926 that any person having a claim against the Estate of any of the deceased persons mentioned in the Schedule and whose names and addresses are set out below is hereby required to make known to the executors and administrators of the estate of the deceased persons the nature and extent of the claim and interest of which they have to make known.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s.277 of the Trustee Act, 1926 that any person having a claim against the Estate of any of the deceased persons mentioned in the Schedule and whose names and addresses are set out below is hereby required to make known to the executors and administrators of the estate of the deceased persons the nature and extent of the claim and interest of which they have to make known.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s.277 of the Trustee Act, 1926 that any person having a claim against the Estate of any of the deceased persons mentioned in the Schedule and whose names and addresses are set out below is hereby required to make known to the executors and administrators of the estate of the deceased persons the nature and extent of the claim and interest of which they have to make known.

NOT



EXECUTIVE VOICE 30
Alastair Ross Goobey
on a public need
for private capital

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday

WORKING WEEK 31
Sports days and
rabbits for
Richard Branson



SPORT 48-56
Russell cuts
loose in
Lord's Test

**HIDDEN ASSETS
OF SIMMONS
& SIMMONS**
Page 31

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

SATURDAY JUNE 22 1996

Lloyd's sees updated offer
as 'last chance' to settle

Bills cut for 90% of names with losses

BY SARAH BAGNALL

NEARLY 90 per cent of Lloyd's names have had their bills to the insurance market cut, as a result of the increase in the settlement offer from £2.8 billion to £3.1 billion.

Yesterday, Lloyd's of London dispatched letters to its 34,000 names, providing updated estimates of how much they will have to pay in final settlement of all their debts with the insurance market. The letters supersede the initial statements sent in March, before the settlement offer was increased. In total, Lloyd's is demanding £359 million in new money from names, over and above the assets already held to support names' underwriting.

The biggest beneficiaries of the increased offer are the 3,100-odd names who have seen their bills tumble by more than £100,000, while the bills sent to about 9,000 further names have fallen by more than £50,000. Furthermore, the number of names who are owed money by Lloyd's has swollen from about 6,000 to 12,000.

At the other end of the spectrum are an estimated 540 names whose bills have increased by more than £15,000, and 2,000 whose bills have risen by less than £15,000.

Lloyd's has lost more than £8 billion in the past five years and the settlement package is an attempt to consign its problems to the past. The package involves an out-of-court settlement with names, aimed at ending the mass of legal actions that have swamped the market, and the writing-off of more than £2 billion of names' debts.

In the letter, David Rowland, chairman of Lloyd's, wrote: "I deeply regret the

events that have made the reconstruction plan necessary. They must never be allowed to recur. I am reminded daily of the damage membership of Lloyd's has caused to thousands of names."

He admits there are shortcomings to the offer. "It is not perfect; we do not command unlimited resources and time is no longer on our side. But it offers better prospects than continued litigation."

As a result of the improved offer, 4,900 names will receive demands above £100,000. This is before taking into account their funds at Lloyd's, which are the assets held to support a name's underwriting and often, are in the form of bank guarantees against the name's home. Under the offer, all names' debts are capped at £100,000 after their funds at Lloyd's have been exhausted.

Again, before taking into account funds at Lloyd's, a further 6,800 names have had debts capped at £25,000, while 4,100 will be sent bills of between £25,000 and £50,000; a further 3,600 names between £50,000 and £75,000; and 2,700 names between £75,000 and £100,000.

Mr Rowland said he was confident that the revised estimates were "a reliable guide to names' finality bills", which will be sent in late August to accept the offer, with payment of any money owed due by September 30.

"We are entering the final weeks of the reconstruction plan and the time for talking and negotiating is over. Members must now prepare to make their decisions," he writes, adding: "If the offer fails, there is no second chance."

A spokesman said: "The



Giles Hilton, product director of Whitbread of Chelsea, the tea company, which is to float on the AIM. Whitbread will award the majority of its employees free shares. The giveaway, which is worth £200,000, will be shared between 270 of the 444 workers. *Tempus*, page 32

Southern Water supports bid

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY
AND OLIVER AUGUST

SOUTHERN WATER announced last night that it is backing the £1.67 billion Scottish Power bid, after receiving assurances that the

integration of the two utilities will not result in compulsory redundancies.

The spokesman said: "The

Scottish Power offer of 1050p in cash represents a premium of 64p over the value of the offer from Southern Electric, and of 74p over the value of the Southern Electric cash alternative."

The water company, which had originally recommended a £1.1 billion bid from its neighbour Southern Electric, met with Scottish Power yes-

terday. The agreement will enable Scottish Power to draft its formal documents as a recommended offer by the Tuesday deadline. Scottish Power wants Southern Water for its multi-utility ambitions.

Southern Water's four top

directors will receive a total of £1.5 million in share option gains after the takeover.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said: "We welcome the OFT's announcement, and would expect nothing less than a full MCC investigation." Mr Branson flies to Washington next week for talks with state officials.

Scotpower offer of 1050p in cash represents a premium of 64p over the value of the offer from Southern Electric, and of 74p over the value of the Southern Electric cash alternative."

The water company, which had originally recommended a £1.1 billion bid from its neighbour Southern Electric, met with Scottish Power yes-

terday. The agreement will enable Scottish Power to draft its formal documents as a recommended offer by the Tuesday deadline. Scottish Power wants Southern Water for its multi-utility ambitions.

Southern Water's four top

directors will receive a total of £1.5 million in share option gains after the takeover.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said: "We welcome the OFT's announcement, and would expect nothing less than a full MCC investigation." Mr Branson flies to Washington next week for talks with state officials.

Scotpower offer of 1050p in cash represents a premium of 64p over the value of the offer from Southern Electric, and of 74p over the value of the Southern Electric cash alternative."

The water company, which had originally recommended a £1.1 billion bid from its neighbour Southern Electric, met with Scottish Power yes-

terday. The agreement will enable Scottish Power to draft its formal documents as a recommended offer by the Tuesday deadline. Scottish Power wants Southern Water for its multi-utility ambitions.

Southern Water's four top

directors will receive a total of £1.5 million in share option gains after the takeover.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said: "We welcome the OFT's announcement, and would expect nothing less than a full MCC investigation." Mr Branson flies to Washington next week for talks with state officials.

Scotpower offer of 1050p in cash represents a premium of 64p over the value of the offer from Southern Electric, and of 74p over the value of the Southern Electric cash alternative."

The water company, which had originally recommended a £1.1 billion bid from its neighbour Southern Electric, met with Scottish Power yes-

terday. The agreement will enable Scottish Power to draft its formal documents as a recommended offer by the Tuesday deadline. Scottish Power wants Southern Water for its multi-utility ambitions.

Southern Water's four top

directors will receive a total of £1.5 million in share option gains after the takeover.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said: "We welcome the OFT's announcement, and would expect nothing less than a full MCC investigation." Mr Branson flies to Washington next week for talks with state officials.

Scotpower offer of 1050p in cash represents a premium of 64p over the value of the offer from Southern Electric, and of 74p over the value of the Southern Electric cash alternative."

The water company, which had originally recommended a £1.1 billion bid from its neighbour Southern Electric, met with Scottish Power yes-

terday. The agreement will enable Scottish Power to draft its formal documents as a recommended offer by the Tuesday deadline. Scottish Power wants Southern Water for its multi-utility ambitions.

Southern Water's four top

directors will receive a total of £1.5 million in share option gains after the takeover.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said: "We welcome the OFT's announcement, and would expect nothing less than a full MCC investigation." Mr Branson flies to Washington next week for talks with state officials.

Scotpower offer of 1050p in cash represents a premium of 64p over the value of the offer from Southern Electric, and of 74p over the value of the Southern Electric cash alternative."

The water company, which had originally recommended a £1.1 billion bid from its neighbour Southern Electric, met with Scottish Power yes-

terday. The agreement will enable Scottish Power to draft its formal documents as a recommended offer by the Tuesday deadline. Scottish Power wants Southern Water for its multi-utility ambitions.

Southern Water's four top

directors will receive a total of £1.5 million in share option gains after the takeover.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said: "We welcome the OFT's announcement, and would expect nothing less than a full MCC investigation." Mr Branson flies to Washington next week for talks with state officials.

Scotpower offer of 1050p in cash represents a premium of 64p over the value of the offer from Southern Electric, and of 74p over the value of the Southern Electric cash alternative."

The water company, which had originally recommended a £1.1 billion bid from its neighbour Southern Electric, met with Scottish Power yes-

terday. The agreement will enable Scottish Power to draft its formal documents as a recommended offer by the Tuesday deadline. Scottish Power wants Southern Water for its multi-utility ambitions.

Southern Water's four top

directors will receive a total of £1.5 million in share option gains after the takeover.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said: "We welcome the OFT's announcement, and would expect nothing less than a full MCC investigation." Mr Branson flies to Washington next week for talks with state officials.

Scotpower offer of 1050p in cash represents a premium of 64p over the value of the offer from Southern Electric, and of 74p over the value of the Southern Electric cash alternative."

The water company, which had originally recommended a £1.1 billion bid from its neighbour Southern Electric, met with Scottish Power yes-

terday. The agreement will enable Scottish Power to draft its formal documents as a recommended offer by the Tuesday deadline. Scottish Power wants Southern Water for its multi-utility ambitions.

Southern Water's four top

directors will receive a total of £1.5 million in share option gains after the takeover.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said: "We welcome the OFT's announcement, and would expect nothing less than a full MCC investigation." Mr Branson flies to Washington next week for talks with state officials.

Scotpower offer of 1050p in cash represents a premium of 64p over the value of the offer from Southern Electric, and of 74p over the value of the Southern Electric cash alternative."

The water company, which had originally recommended a £1.1 billion bid from its neighbour Southern Electric, met with Scottish Power yes-

terday. The agreement will enable Scottish Power to draft its formal documents as a recommended offer by the Tuesday deadline. Scottish Power wants Southern Water for its multi-utility ambitions.

Southern Water's four top

directors will receive a total of £1.5 million in share option gains after the takeover.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said: "We welcome the OFT's announcement, and would expect nothing less than a full MCC investigation." Mr Branson flies to Washington next week for talks with state officials.

Scotpower offer of 1050p in cash represents a premium of 64p over the value of the offer from Southern Electric, and of 74p over the value of the Southern Electric cash alternative."

The water company, which had originally recommended a £1.1 billion bid from its neighbour Southern Electric, met with Scottish Power yes-

terday. The agreement will enable Scottish Power to draft its formal documents as a recommended offer by the Tuesday deadline. Scottish Power wants Southern Water for its multi-utility ambitions.

Southern Water's four top

directors will receive a total of £1.5 million in share option gains after the takeover.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said: "We welcome the OFT's announcement, and would expect nothing less than a full MCC investigation." Mr Branson flies to Washington next week for talks with state officials.

Scotpower offer of 1050p in cash represents a premium of 64p over the value of the offer from Southern Electric, and of 74p over the value of the Southern Electric cash alternative."

The water company, which had originally recommended a £1.1 billion bid from its neighbour Southern Electric, met with Scottish Power yes-

terday. The agreement will enable Scottish Power to draft its formal documents as a recommended offer by the Tuesday deadline. Scottish Power wants Southern Water for its multi-utility ambitions.

Southern Water's four top

directors will receive a total of £1.5 million in share option gains after the takeover.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said: "We welcome the OFT's announcement, and would expect nothing less than a full MCC investigation." Mr Branson flies to Washington next week for talks with state officials.

Scotpower offer of 1050p in cash represents a premium of 64p over the value of the offer from Southern Electric, and of 74p over the value of the Southern Electric cash alternative."

The water company, which had originally recommended a £1.1 billion bid from its neighbour Southern Electric, met with Scottish Power yes-

terday. The agreement will enable Scottish Power to draft its formal documents as a recommended offer by the Tuesday deadline. Scottish Power wants Southern Water for its multi-utility ambitions.

Southern Water's four top

directors will receive a total of £1.5 million in share option gains after the takeover.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said: "We welcome the OFT's announcement, and would expect nothing less than a full MCC investigation." Mr Branson flies to Washington next week for talks with state officials.

Scotpower offer of 1050p in cash represents a premium of 64p over the value of the offer from Southern Electric, and of 74p over the value of the Southern Electric cash alternative."

The water company, which had originally recommended a £1.1 billion bid from its neighbour Southern Electric, met with Scottish Power yes-

terday. The agreement will enable Scottish Power to draft its formal documents as a recommended offer by the Tuesday deadline. Scottish Power wants Southern Water for its multi-utility ambitions.

Southern Water's four top

directors will receive a total of £1.5 million in share option gains after the takeover.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said: "We welcome the OFT's announcement, and would expect nothing less than a full MCC investigation." Mr Branson flies to Washington next week for talks with state officials.

Scotpower offer of 1050p in cash represents a premium of 64p over the value of the offer from Southern Electric, and of 74p over the value of the Southern Electric cash alternative."

The water company, which had originally recommended a £1.1 billion bid from its neighbour Southern Electric, met with Scottish Power yes-

terday. The agreement will enable Scottish Power to draft its formal documents as a recommended offer by the Tuesday deadline. Scottish Power wants Southern Water for its multi-utility ambitions.

Southern Water's four top

directors will receive a total of £1.5 million in share option gains after the takeover.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said: "We welcome the OFT's announcement, and would expect nothing less than a full MCC investigation." Mr Branson flies to Washington next week for talks with state officials.

The services are public but the capital must be private

The Private Finance Initiative was announced by Norman Lamont in the first November Budget in 1992. A year later the Private Finance Panel was convened under the chairmanship of Sir Alastair Morton. One of its responsibilities was to initiate projects whereby private finance could be introduced into the provision of public services.

Two-and-a-half years later more than 1,400 PFI projects have been identified and hundreds are at various stages of procurement; that part of the PFI has certainly more than met expectations.

Yet, there is a general perception, partly justified, that the results of the initiative in terms of signed deals has been less satisfactory: the building contractors, upon whom most of the tendering costs have so far fallen, express their frustrations publicly and forcefully.

Although the position is a great deal better than the perception, there have undoubtedly been disappointing delays in moving from identification of the projects and the publication of invitations to tender to the point at which the contracts are signed and ground-breaking takes place. Why is this, and what can be done to bring the flow of completed deals to a steady stream?

There is wide acceptance of the idea that the mobilisation of private capital is the only way in which public service is likely to be maintained, let alone enhanced. There is one philosophical hurdle which PFI has had to overcome and two pragmatic ones before the individual contracts could be negotiated.

The philosophical one is that the public sector does not need to own the assets by which its service is provided. The private sector has understood this point for some time in its own affairs: newspapers often own neither their offices, the presses on which they are printed or the vehicles in

which they are distributed. The essence of their service is the editorial control by which their readers recognise the product. Under the PFI, the same parallels can be seen.

In the prisons currently being built under PFI, the building and the services in it will be provided by the private sector but in accordance with prison legislation and quality controls exercised by the Prison Service through an on-site controller and approval of all staff members. But the Prison Service has specified the outputs required rather than the way these should be achieved. This procurement of the service rather than the asset itself is the change in emphasis that PFI has produced.

The two pragmatic hurdles are risk transfer and value-for-money. Transferring risk, as in the case of the Post Office Counters/Benefits Agency project just agreed, where the private sector is bearing benefit fraud risks reported to be up to £150 million a year, and taking a view of the savings in design, building and operation will more than make up for the capital cost disadvantage that the public sector has in its access to funds. The boundary of risk transfer, a concept much more advanced in PFI than in any equivalent public/private partnership deals elsewhere in the world, has created delay and conflict.

EXECUTIVE VOICE



Alastair Ross Goobey

Each side has tried, in negotiation, to transfer as much risk to the other as possible. Both may have tried too hard: the private sector has often tried to structure deals like a lease and leaseback, much as in the 1960s and 1970s property developers relished long lettings to the Property Services Agency on full repairing and insuring leases; the public sector has often tried to place risk which might more suitably be retained by it.

Another element of delay has been the fact that each negotiating team from public department, agency or trust and from the bidding consortia, has had to invent and then reinvent the wheel. It is only now that some templates are being created which should shorten the procurement period. These templates have not yet been established in some important areas of activity such as health.

The panel's role has changed

from initiation to delivery, and my predecessor, Sir Christopher Bland, reflected this in a new structure which only came into place at the beginning of this year. The panel members, eight unpaid non-executive (with no contracts), all have an interest in making the PFI work but the repository of experience, and the people who are daily trying to clear any remaining log-jams, is the panel executive, 24-strong only since January. They act as problem solvers and prompters of action. The panel itself must be told of the problems by participants, or the executive, as they arise, and we can try to intervene where helpful to seek solutions. I have already been in contact with contractors, ministers, opposition spokesmen and other agencies, such as the European Investment Bank, to find out what remains to be done to speed up the process.

For every in the country it is imperative that we are able to mobilise private capital in the

provision of public services. The contractors still have weak order books because neither the lottery-funded projects nor a strong enough flow of PFI contracts have been signed; this will constrain overall growth in the economy, whoever is in power, and we cannot afford too many further delays.

For the average citizen PFI, or something very similar, is the only way we are likely to be able to see a renewal of the assets with which public services will be delivered.

There is a good prospect that a flow of significant signed PFI deals will be forthcoming over the remaining months of this financial year, and I promise that it will not be for want of effort on the part of the panel or its executive if that prospect is not fulfilled to most people's satisfaction.

□ Alastair Ross Goobey is the chairman of the Private Finance Panel

LME acts to restore confidence

Risk managers responsible for copper contracts traded on the London Metal Exchange yesterday moved to restore City confidence in the wake of Sumitomo's \$1.8 billion losses. The LME took the unusual step of announcing that it held a record \$3.5 billion in cash, put up by its members against copper contracts currently being traded on the exchange.

Andrew Lamph, managing director of risk at the London Clearing House, which acts as a central counterparty for trades by members of London's four main commodities and futures and options markets, said that the money on deposit was a signal that metal traders on the LME could meet all their margin calls.

After a nervous start to trading on the London market yesterday, when copper for delivery in three months time fell to \$1.870, prices began to firm again towards the end of the day.

Deal agreed

Members of Clerical Medical, the mutual life insurance company, have voted overwhelmingly in favour of the takeover by Halifax Building Society. The proposals for the acquisition will now be submitted to the High Court for approval. The deal is expected to go through before the end of the year.

Rec share sale

Nearly all the Government's remaining shares in regional electricity companies were yesterday sold in a £22.5 million deal. The Treasury sold 3.6 million shares in East Midlands, London, Northern and Yorkshire to UBS, the investment house.

Epic disposal

Royal Insurance is to sell its 33.3 per cent stake in Epic - European Partners for Insurance Cooperation - to Aachener and Münchener, its German joint venture partner, for 300 million Dutch guilders (£14 million).

Jarvis rises

Investors in Jarvis Hotels yesterday enjoyed an instant profit as shares in the company rose 6p above its float price to close at 181p, valuing Jarvis at £300 million. Tempus, page 32

Blue Circle prepares to reorganise over costs

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

BLUE CIRCLE, Britain's biggest cement group, is planning its second major restructuring in four years in a bid to cut costs and increase efficiency.

The £390 million six-year programme will involve the construction of a £180 million plant and the closure of two old plants, with the loss of up to 200 jobs.

The remaining £150 million is to be spent on increasing efficiency at its remaining core cement plants. This should result in cost savings of more than £50 million a year by 2002. The company's production capacity will remain the same at about 7.5 million tonnes a year.

Blue Circle's rationalisation follows a similar move at Rugby Group, a fellow cement producer, in March. Analysts welcomed the Blue Circle plan and its shares rose to close 4p up to 366p.

Blue Circle is studying a possible site for its new plant at Holbrough in north Kent, if found to be suitable, the company will apply for planning permission early next year. The 1.4 million tonnes a year plant is likely to open in 2001. It would replace the company's Northfleet works on the Thames and the Mansons works near Ipswich.

When they close, as many as 200 staff could be made redundant. Blue Circle Industries, the parent company, said this year that 1,300 jobs would go in its struggling heating division.

Tempus, page 32

Port says 1,000 jobs at risk

By CLARE STEWART

UP TO 1,000 jobs could be lost in Liverpool, the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company said yesterday after the decision by Atlantic Container Liners to stop using the city's port.

ACL, which is one of the port's largest container customers, is to transfer its business to Thamesport on the Thames. Mersey Docks said the immediate consequence of ACL's departure would be 90 job losses. "There will be hundreds more jobs affected in the wider port community," said Eric Leatherbarrow, com-

munications director. ACL's decision comes after pressure both in Britain and America from a group of strikers protesting against their dismissals from Mersey Docks last September.

The company has now withdrawn its £8 million jobs and payments offer to the strikers.

The dispute, which does not have the backing of the Transport and General Workers' Union, began when Mersey Docks refused to find jobs for 80 men, made redundant when their independent em-

ployer collapsed. Under the National Dock Labour Scheme, which was abolished in 1989, it would have been obliged to find employment for the workers. Of the 1,200-strong Mersey Docks workforce, 320 who refused to cross a picket line in support of the unemployed men subsequently lost their own jobs.

A final offer of 100 jobs was made, with a package of £25,000 per man, to the former employees two weeks ago.

Tempus, page 32

Mirror buys Irish newspaper group

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

THE Mirror Group yesterday moved to establish a foothold in Ireland, taking control of Century Newspapers in a deal believed to be worth about £15 million.

The Mirror has been keen to bolster its Irish editions and under the terms of the takeover will provide two new presses at Century's printing works. Century will gain access to Mirror Group news and sport as well as funds for further expansion.

The Mirror Group confirmed that there would be no change in the editorial stance of the paper, which is a staunchly pro-Unionist.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Rate	Bank Rate	Bank Rate
Australia S	2.05	1.99	1.99
Austria	2.05	1.99	1.99
Belgium Fr	51.26	48.98	48.98
Canada	2.05	2.04	2.04
Denmark Kr	9.81	8.81	8.81
Finland Mk	7.71	7.08	7.08
France	2.05	2.04	2.04
Germany Dm	2.05	2.04	2.04
Iceland Kr	9.97	9.62	9.62
Ireland	1.15	1.15	1.15
Italy Srl	1.02	0.94	0.94
Japan Yen	161.50	165.50	165.50
Malta	0.785	0.767	0.767
New Zealand S	2.41	2.19	2.19
Netherlands	1.02	0.97	0.97
Portugal Esc	262.50	234.00	234.00
S Africa Rf	7.27	6.47	6.47
Spain Pt	20.02	18.92	18.92
Sweden Kr	10.83	10.03	10.03
Switzerland Fr	2.08	1.88	1.88
UK £	120.00	120.00	120.00
USA \$	1.025	1.005	1.005

Rates for small denominations bank notes only as supplied by Barclays. Different rates for travellers' cheques. Rates of 10 per cent less than yesterday.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

THE SUNDAY TIMES

BTR's share price is at its lowest level for years. Can Ian Strachan, the new chief executive, break out of the downward spiral ... ?

Business, The Sunday Times tomorrow

THE TIMES CROSSWORDS

Now! No handling charges and FREE postage to all our EC customers Rest of the World add £1 per item

Sterling or US\$ only (£1=US\$1.50)

BOOKS at £5.99 (Penguin)

The Times Concise Crosswords - Book 2

BOOKS at £3.99 (Penguin)

The Times Crosswords - Books 6, 10, 11, 12, 13

The Sunday Times Crosswords - Book 9

BOOKS at £3.50

The Times Crosswords - Books 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19

The Times Concise Crosswords - Books 3, 4, 5, 6

The Sunday Times Crosswords - Books 11, 12

The Sunday Times Concise Crosswords - Books 1, 2, 3

BOOKS at £2.99

The Times Two Crosswords - Books 3, 4

The Sunday Times Concise Crosswords - Book 5

SPECIAL OFFER

Any 3 Crossword Books

listed above at £3.99 or £5.50 - just £9

The Times Quiz Book 1996 £4.50

with more than 2000 entertaining questions

The Times Computer Crosswords

by David Akenhead

For IBM PCs (MS Dos) and Acorn RISC OS range including HELP levels and TEAM OPTION on 3.5" disks

(Circa 60 crosswords per book/level)

The Times Crosswords - Books 1 to 11 & 14 to 19

The Times Two Crosswords - Books 1, 2, 3, 4

The Sunday Times Crosswords - Books 1 to 13

The Sunday Times Concise Crosswords - Books 1 to 5

The Sunday Times Mephisto Crosswords

The Times Jubilee Puzzles 1932-1987

Now REDUCED to just £9.99 per title inc. VAT

We also offer a wide range of other publications and a fast, efficient service.

Please send SAE for details

Please send cheques or postal orders (no credit cards) payable to

Akoma Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW

Enquiries: 0181 852 4575 (24 hours)

Delivery up to 8 days (UK)

Delivery up to 8 days (UK

A WORKING WEEK FOR: RICHARD BRANSON

Party mood conceals the serious business of success for Virgin

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday

IT WAS nearly 1pm, and the photographers were growing restless. Where was Richard Branson? Virgin staff tied knots in balloons and handed round champagne while the PRs glanced nervously at their watches. Virgin Atlantic was promoting its inaugural service to Washington DC — but where was the great man?

A topless London bus materialised. Branson gazing over the parapet like some windswept adventurer. He lurched down the steps with a softly spoken "hi", and was promptly trussed up in an Uncle Sam outfit. The photographers perched him on a railing by the Thames and told him to smile. Aspirant socialite Tania Bryer tried to muscle in. Branson kept smiling.

Behind the grin, Branson was having a dreadful day. His old enemy, British Airways, had unveiled plans for an alliance with American Airlines, taking the sheen off Virgin's own day of promotions. Before boarding the bus for his Beatles-style jaunt, he had been locked in interviews, giving warning of the implications of a BA-American tie-up. Commanding up to 70 per cent of the transatlantic air routes could only harm consumers.

"We hope and believe that the Office of Fair Trading will look at this and realise that it is a *de facto* merger, and will launch a full investigation," says Branson [his calls were answered yesterday]. "We feel that if they do launch an investigation, that we have every chance of stopping it."

"Obviously, our ideal scenario would be for the Government simply to say to British Airways, look, this is not on, we believe in competition, and you're quite strong enough already to fight your corner. You already dominate Heathrow, you're most of the slots, you're very profitable. We're proud of the fact that we've overseen, unlike almost any other country, the development of a strong Virgin Atlantic, a strong British Midland, and just get on with it and stop coming up with unrealistic ideas."

It was far from a knee-jerk

Jon Ashworth finds a genial host in a competitive frame of mind

response. Branson, it emerges, caught wind of the imminent announcement, and flew his key advisers to Necker Island in the Caribbean to draft a response. Ironically, he flew British Airways, arriving back on the morning of the BA announcement.

I catch up with Branson in his wife's Saab, en route to his son's school sports day at a venue in north London. It is the only time he has been able to spare all week — and the pace does not let up. On Wednesday, he plays host to journalists on Virgin's inaugural flight to Washington, then embarks on a round of meetings and press conferences.

He flies back on Thursday, ready to entertain friends to dinner. "I've got 24,000 people coming to a seven-day party at my house in the country. All the staff and their children, girlfriends..." The festivities are spread over three weekends.

Partying pretty much sums things up for Branson at present, with or without BA. He has just completed a round of "morale-boosting" parties for staff of Eurostar, where Virgin has stepped in to handle sales and marketing.

His duties required him to turn up at a function in Kent — dressed as a rabbit. "For one-and-a-half very sweaty hours I was going around the table entertaining everybody as a rabbit, and must have lost the best part of a stone." It can only get worse. He is due at Disneyland Paris on July 1, to inaugurate the new direct Eurostar service.

After his son's sports day on Thursday, he drove to Oxford, where Raymond Blanc was opening Le Petit Blanc, a sister restaurant to Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons, in which Virgin has a 50 per cent interest. Weekends might find him taking a quick break in Majorca.

Virgin has grown into a huge web of companies, employing 12,500 people, and

in the year, Virgin is opening a bridal shop near Trafalgar Square, offering everything from wedding dresses to wedding videos. Virgin has ten different teams assessing new projects. "We have targeted about ten industries which we think are fairly large, and fairly complacent, and maybe overcharge quite a lot, and where we think we can do it differently."

Surely there is a danger of diluting the Virgin brand? "Obviously, if we were to ever do something which the public couldn't identify with then, yes, we could dilute the brand," he says. "When we went into Virgin Cola, somebody was saying: 'Do you really want to see the Virgin name lying in a gutter on a cola can?'

Branson, 46 next month, must sometimes wonder whether partying will get the better of him. Last weekend he was in Chichester, helping his sister to celebrate her birthday. Leaving the family, he boarded a helicopter, and flew to Norwich where Virgin Direct was hosting a bash. He drove back to Chichester on Sunday morning, then returned home to Holland Park, west London, in the evening. "I'd like an eight-hour night, but I don't normally get it," he laughs. "The kids get us up pretty early."

Branson tries to make time for his son Sam, 10, and daughter Holly, 13. "I actually try, in my diary, to put crosses through kids' holidays, which is much more than most fathers do, and be with them on holiday. I might be working the whole day, but at least I'm away with them on their holiday." The family goes to Necker "if it's not booked", and recently spent a week canoeing down the Zambezi.

We arrive at the school playing fields — just too late for the father's race — and the commotion starts all over again. A girl grabs Branson for a photo. Someone else tries to interest him in some planes from Iraq. An exhausted Peter O'Toole flops on the lawn, breathlessly tugging on socks and shoes.

John Branson appears, offering sandwiches and champagne. Sam arrives with some friends, and feigns indifference. "Dad, you made it," he says, rummaging in the picnic hamper. "I didn't think you'd turn up."



Uncle Sam for an hour's publicity, but Richard Branson can always find time for his son's sports day, even if he's late

• If the balloon ever went down, Virgin's name is strong enough •

that the company is bigger than the man. "If the balloon ever went down, I think the Virgin name is now strong enough," he says. "I think my money would not be too serious." A fresh round-the-world ballooning attempt is planned for later in the year.

Does he ever tire of the photo-calls, the stunts, the swashbuckling antics? "My general philosophy is, if you decide to do something, throw yourself into it, and do it well, and enjoy it as much as you can. I've never been, strange though it may seem, enormously comfortable with this 'making a fool of oneself' in order to get the message across. But I've grown to get on with it and get it done."

About half Branson's time is devoted to new ventures. His return to his record label roots is one example. Virgin Direct might branch into mortgages, and personal banking. Later

HIDDEN ASSETS

Rare combination of talents graces walls of a law firm

Joanna Pitman finds an old practice endowed with modern British art

tography as their medium," he says.

Admittedly, Simmons & Simmons has a professional interest in the contemporary art world, having advised a number of young British artists, including Damien Hirst and Tracey Emin. The firm is also advising the Tate Gallery on the structuring and financing of the Banksy project for the new Tate Gallery of Modern Art.

Even so, Evans had a challenge on his hands obtaining a modicum of consensus from his colleagues, all of whom had differing ideas on the extent to which he could push the artistic boundaries. "Good art is neither tame

nor tameable. It has been fascinating to see which pictures as they went up over a period of months, created the most 'stir'." But Evans had a clear direction and focus in mind for this particular collection, and, since its completion this year, he appears to have won over most of the dissenters. "As well as supporting the arts, our aim has been to bring to young artists a showcase beyond the galleries in which their work is usually seen, and to provide ourselves and our clients with the opportunity to engage with what I believe to be some of the most interesting elements in current British art."



The Well by David Austen is one of the works on display

2% DISCOUNT UNTIL 30.9.96 17% p.a. growth from Fidelity.



That's what I call Great British performance.

Three outstanding funds in one simple investment.

SPECIAL SITUATIONS TRUST — Up 2993% since its launch in 1979, this fund has beaten every other fund in the UK equities. We have created a package that allows you to access 3 of our top UK funds in just one simple investment. It's called UK Triple Performance.

UK GROWTH TRUST — Up 402% since launch in 1985. This unbroken top quartile performance has earned the fund maximum Micropal Five Star and Fund Research AAA ratings.

UK DIVIDEND GROWTH FUND — Up 28% since launch in February 1994, this fund is already a number one performer, beating 128 funds in its sector.

0800 41 41 71

Call free 9am-6pm. Open 7 days. Or contact us on <http://www.fid-intl.co.uk>

To: Fidelity Direct, PO Box 88, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9DZ. Please send me information on Fidelity's UK Triple Performance.

Fidelity will not disclose any of the details below outside the Fidelity Investment marketing group.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

All figures source Micropal to 1.6.96, net income reinvested, offer to bid. *Source: Adapted from Micropal, UK Triple Performance Plan - fund combination assuming Fidelity 3% initial PEP charges, with net income reinvested. All ratings current as at 1.6.96. Sector quartiles as at 1.6.96, offer to office. Past performance is no guarantee of future returns. The value of units and income from them may go down as well as up and an investor may not get back the amount invested. Tax assumptions may be subject to future statutory change and the value of net savings and eligibility to invest in a PEP will depend on individual circumstances. The Fidelity PEP is offered and managed by Fidelity Investments Ltd, regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investments Authority. The split of investments in the Fidelity UK Triple Performance Plan may be varied slightly towards Fidelity UK Growth Trust due to rounding. Income earned in units in Fidelity UK Dividend Growth Fund will automatically be re-invested if held within the UK Triple Performance Plan. Fidelity only provides information about its products and will not give investment advice based on individual circumstances. Issued by Fidelity Investment Services Ltd, and Fidelity Investments Ltd, both of which are regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority.



Take a wiser line with your money.

For those who would like indepen-

dent advice, Fidelity products are also available through independent financial advisers.

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Shares end a lacklustre week with another loss

SHARE prices rounded off a lacklustre week with a tired performance and closed at their low for the day. In thin trading, the FT-SE 100 index saw an early 11-point lead wiped out to finish 5.2 points lower at 3,772.3 with only 768 million shares changing hands. The index fell 3.3 points on the week.

The latest CBI survey on manufacturing output raised hopes that there is scope for another cut in interest rates. But with the summer season now in full swing, investor interest proved short-lived. A brief flurry of activity was also provided by the expiry of the June options of the FT-SE 100 index traded options.

The three new additions to the top 100 companies came under the spotlight before their inclusion as constituents for the first time on Monday. United News & Media, publisher of the *Daily Express*, finished 6p to 722p, while Orange, the mobile phone operator, fell 2p to 243.5p and Next rose 3p to 529p.

Those being relegated include, Greensells Group, down 14p to 576p, Foreign and Colonial Investment Trust, 2p easier at 149.4p, and Reckitt, down 65p at 325.5p.

Whitbread was flat market, falling 11p to 781.5p after ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker, turned bearish of the stock, claiming that it was overvalued.

The setback for the shares revived talk that the group is about to hit the takeover trail. Once again there is speculation it may be about to buy the Odbbins off-licence chain from Seagram. Another name linked with Whitbread earlier this week was Tom Cobleigh, the managed pubs chain, down at 246p.

British Airways shed 1p at 554p after a threat from the Office of Fair Trading to refer its link-up with American Airlines to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. As from next April, the two carriers will co-ordinate flights and bookings between Britain and the US.

Rhino, the computer and video games retailer, rose 1.5p to 17.5p after some bullish comments about current trading. The group told shareholders at the annual meeting that all its stores now trade under the name Electronics Boutique, with 19 stores refurbished and a further 30 to be completed by the year-end.



Next shares are set for the top 100 shop window

Sales in the stores that have been remodelled are up 60 per cent.

Plans by Blue Circle Industries, Britain's biggest cement producer, to invest a total of £330 million in its cement operations during the next six years were rewarded with a rise of 4p to 366p.

Oxford Molecular fell 8p to 329p as a large part of the

Dawson Holdings, which is listed on AIM, fell 10p to £16.65 as 2 per cent of the company changed hands. Sutherlands, the broker, arranged a put-through in 120,000 shares at £16.75, worth £2.01 million. Dawson is planning to acquire the rest of the shares in PWJ Surridge, the newspaper distributor.

company changed hands. Cazenove, the broker, placed 7.5 million shares, or 8 per cent of the issued share capital, for a client at 320p. The shares are believed to have belonged to one of the venture capitalists backing the group. Only last month, Cazenove placed another large parcel of shares on behalf of a venture capitalist at around 300p. By the close of business a total of 15.35 million shares had changed hands in a market where

Terminal, but was not critical to the Port of Liverpool or the group itself. Brokers said that 1,000 jobs could be lost, even though profits were unlikely to be badly affected.

First-time trading in Jarvis Hotels got off to a positive start after the issue was oversubscribed. Offered at 175p, the price opened at 193p, its best of the day, before settling at 179p, a premium of 9.4p. One of its biggest shareholders is Electra Investment Trust

which saw its coffers swell by £22 million, a net gain of £8 million, after the flotation, with Jarvis capitalised at around £27 million. A total of 18.34 million shares changed hands by the close.

Takeover favourite Schroders, the merchant bank, made the most of a reiterated "buy" recommendation from BZW with the shares adding 3p at 131.60. Philip Gibbs at BZW has raised his pre-tax profit forecast for the current year from £237 million to £250 million and by £10 million to £280 million next time round. A total of 233,45 shares were eventually traded in a 3,000 share market.

High-flying British Bio-technology was a nervous market in front of full-year figures next week, ending the session 102p lower at 25.08.

Despite the sharp rise in the share price this year (up from 16.83p) the group has yet to

make a profit. Greg Middleton, the broker, is forecasting another loss of £25 million compared with £26.5 million last time. On Thursday, the group announced that Marimastat, its cancer treatment, had begun Phase 3 trials.

■ GILT-EDGED: The London market outperformed its overseas rivals to score some useful gains by the close. Prices were squeezed higher in thin trading, although there was further evidence of support at the lower levels. But genuine demand remained thin, with the continued absence of sellers underpinning the market.

The Bank of England took advantage of the market's positive performance to issue further branches of index-linked stock. These included £200 million of Treasury Index-Linked 2½ per cent 2009 and £200 million of Treasury Index-Linked 2½ per cent 2024.

In the futures pit, the September series of the long gilt advanced £116 to £105.18 as a total of 47,000 contracts were completed.

In longs Treasury 8 per cent 2015 also rose £116 to £97.16, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £4 better at 102.5p.

■ NEW YORK: US stocks were higher at midday on heavy volume stemming from triple-witching expirations, bolstered by strength in the bond market. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 15.51 points at 5,674.94.

In longs Treasury 8 per cent 2015 also rose £116 to £97.16, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £4 better at 102.5p.

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the

outlook for the year 1996 as "modestly positive".

Analysts have placed a positive view on the market, with the



TIMESHARES 34

When the dream of a place in the sun turns sour

WEEKEND MONEY

NEST EGGS? 42

The Official Receiver has acquired 3,000 ostriches



Years away from split pensions

Anne Ashworth on new divorce rules that may not become law until the end of the decade

A loud hurrah greeted the last-minute inclusion of pensions splitting in the Family Law Bill that enshrines the new divorce rules. The proposal, which should allow pensions to be divided at the time of the decree absolute, was hailed as a victory for the middle-aged housewife who loses the right to her husband's pension when her marriage ends.

But the euphoria swiftly dissipated as it became clear that the new rules will not become law until the end of the decade. Moreover, although the rules cover husbands as well as wives, they will not apply retrospectively, to the chagrin of those who have already divorced.

The Department of Social Security is preparing a Green Paper on pension splitting, likely to be published at the end of next month. After consultation, there will be a White Paper.

A change of government during the period would hand over the responsibility for drafting the law to the Labour Party, further slowing down the process. One matrimonial lawyer remarked this week that Labour might live to regret its insistence that pensions splitting be included in the Bill, because of its complexity. Matrimonial lawyers

almost universally support pensions splitting. They see it as the only way to compensate properly a woman who has not had the opportunity to build up her own retirement savings for the loss of her husband's pension rights. That does not mean however, that they underestimate the problems involved.

The DSS — which has always been opposed to pension splitting — emphasises the cost and complexity of the move. Although personal pensions can simply be put aside, dividing company pension assets is another matter. The DSS maintains company schemes are already overwhelmed with the additional obligations of the Pensions Act 1995.

Bill Birmingham, of the National Association of Pension Funds, which represents the pension industry, believes that trustees and managers should be able to handle the responsibility of dividing pensions.

He said: "Schemes are not only coping with the Pensions Act, they are also dealing with requests from insurance companies calculating the compensation for those wrongly advised to leave company schemes. However, while pensions splitting will be tough, it can be achieved, but only if it is brought in after the implemen-

tation of the Pensions Act next year."

Mr Birmingham explains that pension fund holdings are regularly valued, so that members can transfer. These figures could be used to split pensions. One reason for the Government's opposition to pension splitting has been the difficulties surrounding public sector schemes. Civil servants' pensions are funded on a pay-as-you-go basis. The schemes themselves have no assets to be apportioned. The NAPF, however, has suggested that the divorced spouse could be made a de facto member of the scheme and receive his, or her, portion when the civil servant retired.

The inclusion of pensions splitting in the Bill has overshadowed the introduction on July 1 of pensions earmarking. This was the Government's first concession to demands for a fairer deal. Under earmarking, or "deferred maintenance", a spouse becomes entitled to a share of the pension, not on divorce, but on the retirement of his or her spouse. Ian Pittaway, partner at Sacker & Partners, the specialist pension lawyer, explains that the new law, which applies to divorce petitions filed on or after July 1, 1996, gives courts the powers for the first time to award payments from pension funds. Lawyers are also conscious

that it is their duty to assess the pension, or risk being accused of negligence. This responsibility was underlined in the *Griffiths v Dawson & Co* case. Specialised businesses have sprung up to help lawyers to tackle the convoluted topic of pensions. For example, Divorce Corporation, a division of Abbey National, based in Sheffield, offers a full review of pension rights that includes obtaining all the necessary documents. The organisation claims its ser-

In advance of the implementation of the pension earmarking rules, matrimonial lawyers report a rush of wealthy husbands seeking to protect their pensions from their wives by divorcing before the new rules come in.

These men are obviously unaware that, although the earmarking provisions give the courts the powers for the first time to make payments from pensions, retirement savings are already taken into account in divorce settlements. The ending of the colourful marriage of Bob Geldof and Paula Yates doubtless contained discussions of his pension expectations, as well as the rest of his estimated £10 million fortune. Lawyers are also conscious

that it is their duty to assess the pension, or risk being accused of negligence. This responsibility was underlined in the *Griffiths v Dawson & Co* case. Specialised businesses have sprung up to help lawyers to tackle the convoluted topic of pensions. For example, Divorce Corporation, a division of Abbey National, based in Sheffield, offers a full review of pension rights that includes obtaining all the necessary documents. The organisation claims its ser-

vices can reduce divorce costs by as much as £1,200.

Frances Hughes, head of family law at Bates, Wells & Braithwaite, the solicitor, says that much of her time is now spent resolving pension questions. She explains: "Pensions are less problematic when the rich divorce as there are sufficient assets to allow the court to place the spouse in a position where she has enough to live off for the rest of her life. For example, there are creative ways in which

widow, she does not qualify for the widow's pension.

"You can sometimes get round this by utilising part of the widow's pension, as a defendant's pension for the ex-wife. But if you allocate the pension in this way, then it has a serious effect on the husband's pension."

Ian Pittaway, a partner at Sacker & Partners, says that some pension funds have yet to realise the full impact that earmarking will have on their administrative systems. "They will see a significant increase in the number of their members, as ex-spouses become entitled to a pension. More records will have to be kept and payments made, at a time when there is pressure on costs."



There were doubtless discussions over Bob Geldof's pension expectations, as well as his estimated £10 million fortune, during his divorce from Paula Yates

Husbands seek separation in vain to safeguard riches

that it is their duty to assess the pension, or risk being accused of negligence. This responsibility was underlined in the *Griffiths v Dawson & Co* case. Specialised businesses have sprung up to help lawyers to tackle the convoluted topic of pensions. For example, Divorce Corporation, a division of Abbey National, based in Sheffield, offers a full review of pension rights that includes obtaining all the necessary documents. The organisation claims its ser-

additional voluntary contribution (AVC) funds can be used now, in advance of pensions splitting, to provide a defendant's pension for the ex-wife.

For couples with fewer resources, pensions are more tricky. The earmarking rules will not deal satisfactorily with the problem. For example, they do not give the wife an automatic pension on the death of the husband, as her earmarking rights die with him. As the ex-wife is not the

Grass looks greener abroad but . . .

Sara McConnell assesses the pros and cons of the good life in Europe

Tempted by a move to Greece, Spain or Italy? Plenty have been. After all, the sun shines constantly, the people are friendly, the food is good . . . and the pensions are the most generous in Europe. Another reason to buy that second home — and possibly make it your first.

According to a report published this weekend from Sedgwick Noble Lowndes, the actuaries and benefit consultant, the three countries top the European pensions league, paying up to 86 per cent of gross salary on retirement. Most of this comes from the State. Pensions in Britain rank at the bottom of the European generosity league, replacing just 63 per cent of gross final salary on average. The British figure includes a substantial proportion of benefits from

occupational pensions as well as from the State. Italian employers pay the equivalent of an extra 50 per cent of salary towards your pension. To put this into perspective, British employers are the least generous in Europe, paying just 8 per cent of salary into your pension on average, although a large number of employers make voluntary contributions, pushing the typical level to 20 per cent.

But before you pack and head for the airport, it is worth reading the Sedgwick report carefully. The firm's 1990-97 *Guide to Employee Benefits and Labour Law in Europe*

also reveals that Italy and Spain have some of the highest unemployment rates, at 12.6 per cent and 22.8 per cent respectively in 1995. These are a decided dampener on your prospects for a healthy pension balance and make the UK's 8 per cent unemployment rate look quite healthy.

Unfortunately, the UK scores badly on what you could call "quality of life" benefits such as holidays and maternity pay. For the best deals on maternity pay, you should head north to Sweden, where mothers and fathers between them are allowed more than a year of paid leave

Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

Keep AIM on target

Wednesday's first anniversary of the Stock Exchange's Alternative Investment Market was marked by upbeat celebrations that seemed unlikely when it started. What first appeared as an ugly duckling had quickly turned into a swan. This happy transformation was not, however, just a matter of nature taking its course.

The start was auspicious because big name establishment institutions were snuffy. AIM looked a poor relation of the Unlisted Securities Market it was destined to replace, carrying less regulation and, therefore, less assurance.

Many remembered earlier illiquid and spivvy sub-markets for new or small companies. AIM was, indeed, developed in part because international harmonisation had brought too big an overlap between the main stock market listing and the USM, making the latter obsolete. If big investors were snuffy and many good USM stocks transferred to a full listing, AIM might also fail to attract ambitious companies keen to raise money and enhance their reputations.

These fears were dispelled only because private investors took to the new market (partly spurred by tax breaks) and because a few Stock Exchange firms dedicated to private investors and new companies — such as the promoter Besson Gregory and the market-maker Winterflood Securities — committed themselves wholeheartedly to the new market. This proved a powerful combination. After a slow start, AIM gathered speed fast. From ten companies at the start, it now boasts 164. A total market value of £52 million has grown to £3.4



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

billion, although most of that is locked up in the hands of core investors. Growth of turnover in the market is even more telling. On the first day, there were just 28 bargains. Even after four months, total turnover had reached only a modest £95 million. Before the 12-month anniversary, however, it had comfortably topped £1 billion.

Institutional investors have climbed heavily on board, partly on their own account and partly through specialist trusts aimed at the private investor and tax benefits that stem from AIM companies being "unquoted". Given the higher risk associated with young, often single-product companies, trusts have great appeal. Since the start of 1996, there has been an AIM share index. Not surprisingly, given this upsurge in interest, it leads the all-share index strongly.

AIM has become fashionable, along with the football clubs and media operations that feature in it and under-

line its lead role in business developments. This institutional interest is vital to the market's role as a raiser of capital, but a mixed blessing. So far AIM has had a fair economic wind behind it and, therefore, remarkably few disasters. Unless you believe that Tony Blair will end "boom and bust" cycles, it will not always be so and a mass exit by the City herd would make AIM shares even more volatile than they are by nature.

Per contra, AIM could become too respectable. Much is now made of the high entry price necessitated by nominated sponsors taking their onerous responsibilities to institutional investors (and professional liability insurers) ever more seriously. But respectability comes at a price. Impressive as the market's growth has been, some insiders were looking for twice as many entrants by now, until costly lawyers' and accountants' fees became the norm.

For the economy, it is good that fund managers take more interest in new and risky companies. But they must not take over AIM. The dead hand of bureaucratic convenience that comes with dominance would stifle the source of AIM's original success, which lay with private investors who had enough spare cash and spirit to take risks and back outsiders. The lesson of AIM is that private investors really matter. Indeed, the Stock Exchange should learn that lesson by creating a national market for smaller listed stocks that has a rulebook and culture to suit the needs of small investors rather than the largely uninterested institutions.

UK funds traditionally form the core of most people's portfolios. But with over 300 available, which one do you choose? Consider Fidelity — a performance leader in UK equities. We have created a package that allows you to access 3 of our top UK funds in just one simple investment. It's called UK Triple Performance.

If you had invested in this combination 2 years ago, your money would have grown by an average 17% p.a. There's a tax-free PEP option available and a 2% discount off all unit trust investments into the plan until 30th September.

So act now to find out more about UK Triple Performance and give your investments the best of British from Fidelity.

0800 41 41 71

Callfree 8am-6pm. Open 7 days. Or contact us on <http://www.fid-intl.com/uk>

To: Fidelity Direct, PO Box 88, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9DZ. Please send me information on Fidelity's UK Triple Performance. Fidelity will not disclose any of the details below outside the Fidelity Investment marketing group.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

All figures since March 1994, net income reinvested, off to bid. *Source: Adapted from MICRO, UK Triple Performance Plan — fund combination assuming Fidelity's 2% initial PEP charges, with net income reinvested. All returns current as at 1.6.96. Second quarter as at 1.6.96, off to offer. Past performance is no guarantee of future returns. The value of investments can go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount you invested. These investments may be subject to future statutory changes and the value of your investment and any PEP will depend on individual circumstances. The Fidelity PEP is offered and managed by Fidelity Investments Ltd, regulated by DIFID and the Personal Investment Authority. The split of investments in the Fidelity UK Triple Performance Plan may be varied only towards Fidelity UK Growth Trust due to rounding. Income earned on units in Fidelity UK Dividend Growth Fund will automatically be re-invested if held under the UK Triple Performance Plan. Fidelity only provides information about its products and will not give investment advice based on individual circumstances. Issued by Fidelity Investment Services Ltd, Fidelity Investments Ltd, both of which are regulated by MICRO and the Personal Investment Authority. TMC4

For those who would like independent financial advice. Fidelity products are also available through independent financial advisers.



Take a wiser line with your money.

Caroline Merrell and Jody Brett Kelly on the latest timeshare sales patter

How the dream of buying a place in the sun turns sour



HOLIDAY FINANCE

Trading standards officers are investigating the activities of Newby Finance, a mortgage company based in Leicester, after complaints about the refinance deals offered on timeshare apartments.

Newby Finance is one trading name of another company based in Leicester, the Mortgage Advice Centre (MAC), which is already under investigation by the Office of Fair Trading.

The complaints against Newby, which received a consumer credit licence at the beginning of the year, centre on quotes given to tourists in Spanish holiday resorts for remortgaging their homes to buy timeshares.

Holidaymakers claim they were told that they could reduce their total outgoings by going through this process. Upon returning to Britain,

YOU may think that you are above being pressured into signing up to buy timeshare apartments, but as holidaymakers have become more aware of the ploys used by salesmen to encourage them to sign on the dotted line, so the methods employed by the tour operators have evolved along even more sophisticated and complicated avenues. Now holidaymakers are not only subjected to hours of hard-sell patter, while at the mercy of the timeshare company reps. They are also tempted with the promise of reducing their mortgage payments back in Britain, offered the chance of employment, or led to believe that they can swap the timeshare they already own. Here *The Times* looks at the experiences of holidaymakers who bitterly regret the day they accepted an invitation for a discussion about how to guarantee a place in the sun.

and after a consultation with Newby Finance, they found that their costs would rise. When they tried to escape from the deal, they say the timeshare company threatened them with legal action.

Peter Hayes, a chef from Cheshire, is one such holidaymaker. He was offered a chance of remortgaging his home via Newby to buy a timeshare. When he returned to England, he found that the remortgage would cost a lot more than he claims he had been led to believe. Mr Hayes is now trying to get out of his timeshare agreement, and endeavouring to get his £550 deposit returned.

The inquiry into Newby comes after an investigation was started into MAC, which was the subject of a "minded to revoke" notice from the Office of Fair Trading two months ago. This action could end

ALAN WELLER



Janet Bingham and Paul Brisley were attracted by the idea of becoming timeshare agents

A FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY

"How can you lose out? If you are not happy, your credit card company pays up."

Touts are lulling holidaymakers into a false sense of security by telling them their credit card company is jointly liable if anything goes wrong with the purchase.

It is true that under section 75 of the Consumer Credit Act your card company should buy up if the goods are wrongly described or non-existent. This also applies to overseas transactions because of a voluntary agreement by the banks.

The rule has been in place since May 15 last year, but is not retrospective.

But the rule is that the touts take you to the bank and ask you to use your credit card to make a cash advance for the timeshare deposit. What they do not tell you is that your credit card company will not bail you out for cash advances. And to add to the complica-

tions, the Time Share Council says, some banks are dragging their heels about paying up for other transactions.

Gerald Martin, 62, of Crowthorne, Surrey, has asked for his money back from TSB and Barclays. The former engineering assistant used redundancy money to buy into a property in Miraflores last year without realising it was a timeshare.

"The total cost was £25,000 and they told me it was freehold and I could easily sell it on," he says.

He bought the property as his partner of 17 years, Margaret Buck, had suffered a heart attack and needed a restful place to recover.

But after paying the £5,000 deposit using two credit cards, Mr Martin realised that he was, in fact, buying a timeshare for eight weeks that was worth about £5,000. He is now trying to recover that deposit with the help of the Time Share Council.

An offer you wish you had refused

"If you buy our timeshare, we will give you a new life and a new job."

Janet Bingham, an unemployed residential home carer, and her partner, Paul Brisley, a painter and decorator, were looking forward to starting a new life in Majorca.

While on holiday there this month they signed up for a one-week timeshare in the resort of Garden Lago Puerto D'Alcudia.

It cost £6,000 but they were attracted by explanations about how they could become timeshare agents, living free for the first month in one of the resorts owned by Adas Bolear.

To demonstrate how much the couple could make from working for the company, a salesman showed his payslip to Janet, 29, and Paul, 31. They say they got the impression they could earn as much as £2,000 a week.

Ms Bingham says: "It really seemed like a great way to get ahead and start a new life and they seemed very keen to take us on as salespeople because we were a couple."

She paid a deposit of £600 on her National & Provincial Visa card and they agreed to take out a loan with the company for the remaining £5,200, which they undertook to pay back at the rate of £125 a month.

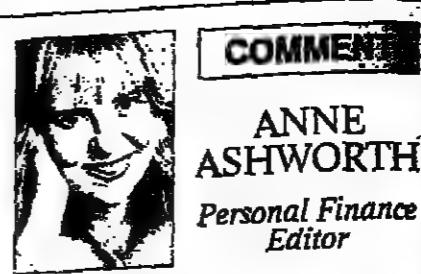
They have yet to sign for the loan, but they understand they are legally obliged to start making the payments in nine months' time.

The next morning they had grave reservations about the deal but were told they could not back out.

And when the couple got back to their flat in Folkestone, Kent, they looked at their agents pack which says that they can sell one week's accommodation at the resort to her family and friends for £150 and they can keep the money. But as Ms Bingham points out: "Anybody who buys this one week's accommodation off me still has to pay for their flights and car hire because the resort is an hour-and-a-half away from the airport. So this is hardly a bargain. They also have to listen to presentations from the timeshare people."

They say they are being urged by European Collectors, the resort's collection agency, to sign for a loan. They have been told by this agency that only good agents actually eventually get a job in the resort. "The whole thing is a mess," says Ms Bingham. "It really is quite a worrying situation."

A spokesman for Garden Lago, the timeshare company, who described himself as an in-house manager, said: "You're poking your nose where it's not wanted. I don't want to speak to you." He then put down the telephone.



COMMENT
ANNE ASHWORTH
Personal Finance Editor

DSS sings the same old tune

The song said that "breaking up was so very hard to do" and the Department of Social Security is determined to prove it beyond doubt. You can almost hear the strains of the Neil Sedaka hit sounding out from the department's Whitehall headquarters.

Since the beginning of the campaign for pensions splitting at divorce, the DSS has been against the measure. This opposition is curious in light of the widespread support for splitting, but not inexplicable. Insurance companies, peers and pension funds may believe that a spouse who has dedicated life to home and family has a right to a share of a substantial household asset. But the DSS can see only the potential cost to public sector pension schemes.

As support has grown for splitting, the DSS found one pretext after another to fend off the division of pensions at divorce. One of these arguments centres on lost tax revenue. An ex-wife can set her personal tax allowance against her pension, so paying less tax. The woman who remains married cannot use her allowance in this way, as the pension is taxed as her husband's income. This is, of course, true. However, it overlooks the various tax-saving opportunities open to couples. For example, a husband can transfer investments into his wife's name, making it possible for her to exploit her allowance.

The latest counter-attack against splitting is the extra expenditure and work involved for the pension industry. But earmarking, or the division of a pension at retirement, the Government's first and highly imperfect solution to the pension question, will be infinitely more costly in both money and scheme-manager time than a clean break. Imagine the disputes that will result when a pension is paid out to a spouse whom your subsequently remarried employer divorced a decade ago.

Earmarking becomes law on July 1, as the Green Paper on splitting nears completion. Lawyers specialising in divorce and pensions believe that the legislation should be as straightforward as possible. For example, there should be one statutory basis for calculating pension rights, rather than a number of different methods. However, few suspect that clarity and simplicity will be a prime consideration of the DSS. Delay seems set to be the keynote. Meanwhile, pity the poor pension scheme manager obliged to act as mediator between members and their former spouses.

Compensation at last

THE Cheltenham & Gloucester has, at last, closed a less than illustrious chapter in its 146-year-old history.

This week it paid out £7.5 million in compensation to 319 pensioners who had sold unsuitable home income plans, backed by C&G loans. These high-risk plans were arranged by Aylesbury Associates, a now disgraced firm of financial advisers. C&G also paid an ex-gratia £7 million to the Investors' Compensation Scheme, which had already distributed some cash to these elderly victims.

That the C&G still denies liability is likely to be of little concern to those who have finally received their due. Vulnerable and unsophisticated, they were advised to borrow against the value of their homes to invest in bonds. When these bonds slumped in value, even as the interest accumulated on their loans, they were left in fear of repossession.

The C&G should now serve as an example to the prominent societies, including National Counties and West Bromwich, that are also being chased by the ICS for moneys paid out to home income clients. Even if they are unmoved by the plight of pensioners, they should remember that there are public relations rewards in being magnanimous.



Carole Hibberd was lured by hope of selling a timeshare

Soft sell, hard finish

NEWSCASTER

"We have many Russians who want to buy your timeshare."

This very successful sell-by marketing technique is expected to be rife this summer.

Carole Hibberd, 52, a music teacher, and her husband, David, 47, a builder, looked forward to a lifetime of holidays beneath bright sun and blue skies when they bought a timeshare in Tenerife three years ago. But all was not so sunny when the Croydon couple started having problems swapping their week for one in the school holidays to suit Andrew, their son of 14.

While on holiday a year ago, they were approached by a timeshare salesman in the street. But instead of starting up a hard-sell patter, he seemed very keen to buy their timeshare. It seemed their problems would be solved.

"He told us they had Russian clients who were very wealthy and wanted to get

their money out of the country. Apparently these Russian clients had asked for our exact timeshare week and would pay £7,500," Mrs Hibberd says.

Initially, they were surprised at the generosity of the offer as the timeshare had only cost them £4,000. In return, the Hibberds had to buy a new timeshare in Tenerife costing £8,500. But that suited them as it was a week in the school holidays and the apartment was more luxurious.

The Hibberds thought the company was contractually obliged to sell their first timeshare within nine months. But after reading the documentation they realised there was no obligation, although it said it was "unlikely" the timeshare would not sell.

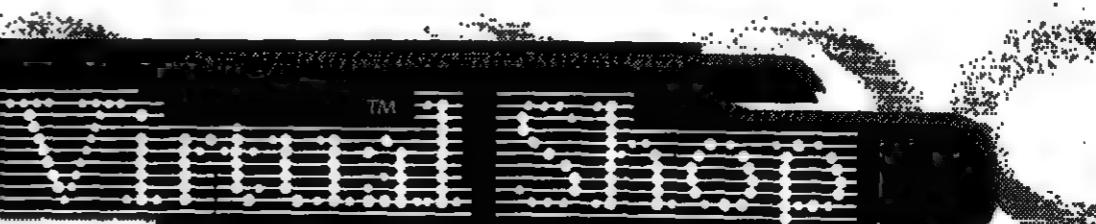
More than a year down the line, their first timeshare has not been sold and the couple

have fully paid off the second timeshare.

The contract says that if the timeshare company does not sell the first timeshare within nine months, the Hibberds can request that the second timeshare be sold. They made this request in January, but there is no time limit on how long the company can take to sell it. To make matters worse, the second timeshare has still not been completed, nor has the airport which allows access to it.

Mrs Hibberd says: "We went back to Tenerife recently and we saw a lot of people being approached by touts, trying to sell them a timeshare. I just wanted to tell them to run away right then and there."

Diana Hanks, customer services manager for the Time Share Council, the self-regulatory body, says buyers should ensure the timeshare company is a member of their organisation.



NATIONAL SAVINGS

today's offer

350,000

TAX-FREE PRIZES EVERY MONTH

**WIN A
£1 MILLION
EVERY MONTH
OR YOUR
MONEY BACK**

**key plus
points**

£1 Million monthly jackpot

**350,000 prizes
every month guaranteed**

**You can invest
£100 to £20,000**

Money back at any time

All prizes tax-free

Premium Bonds

Any person aged 16 or over can buy Premium Bonds for themselves. Bonds can be bought for children under 16 by their parents, (great) grandparents or guardians.

If you buy by post, we will send you a copy of the prospectus containing the full terms. This advertisement is a

simplified guide. The purchase date will be the date we receive your application and cheque. If you then wish to cancel your purchase, tell us in writing within 28 days and we will refund your money. But please note that you are not entitled to any prizes drawn on the cancelled purchase.

The Director of Savings reserves the right to seek evidence of identity.

Bonds go into the prize draws one full calendar month after the month of purchase. Three months notice will be given to any changes to the prize structure or interest rate that makes up the prize fund.

Please send this form to: National Savings, PREMIUM BONDS, Freepost BJ 2052, Blackpool, FY3 9XR. If you prefer, use a first class stamp for rapid delivery.

EH37M6

1 Do you already hold Premium Bonds? (please tick) Yes No

If yes, please enter your Holder's Number

2 Amount in words: pounds £

Minimum £100. Larger amounts must be in multiples of £100

3 M Surname
(Mr/Mrs/Ms/Ms/Ms)
All forenames
Address in full
Postcode Date of Birth 18 DAY MONTH YEAR

4 I accept the purchase will be subject to the terms of the current Prospectus.

Signature Date

5 If buying for a child under 16, give name of parent/guardian:

M Surname
(Mr/Mrs/Ms/Ms/Ms)
All forenames

6 If buying for a (great) grandchild, give name of the parent/guardian above and your own name and address below:

M Surname
(Mr/Mrs/Ms/Ms/Ms)
All forenames
Address
Postcode

This form cannot be used to purchase Premium Bonds at a post office.

NATIONAL SAVINGS

Unique Investment Opportunities from HM Treasury

Sarah Jones

L
S
National
ment Av
These
with
ing
part
to J
was ch
the m
Accord
inve
part
Bonds
M
any
accounts
National
had as
at banks
Saving
relatively
have low
notice per
est, criteri
and buildi
One of the
Pensioners
qualification

Sch

Sarah Jones on the National Savings Investment Account's 30th anniversary



Pamela Benstead with her sons, Richard, 16, and James, 12, who were treated differently over the 30-day notice rule

Lots of candles are being blown out on the birthday cake at National Savings this week. The Investment Account is 30 years old. These days more than 4.5 million people have accounts with a total of £9.3 billion invested.

Introduced in the 1965 Budget by James Callaghan when he was Chancellor and launched the next June, the Investment Account required a minimum investment of £1, allowed a maximum £5,000 deposit, and paid 5.5 per cent gross.

But there have been several changes to the account recently. The minimum deposit is now £30 and the maximum £100,000. Rates of interest are now tiered. The current rates were cut in February this year and, in line with all savings rates, are little better than 3.0 years ago: 3 per cent for balances of £1-£499, 5.5 per cent for £500-£24,999 and 5.75 per cent for £25,000-£100,000.

Birthday time blues

The latest change is on access. Previously, there was a 30-day notice rule. Now investors can withdraw their money immediately — although they are penalised the equivalent of 30 days' interest. National Savings billed this in April as giving "more flexibility" to savers and "good business practice". However, Pamela Benstead, a reader of *The Times*, views it differently.

Her sons, Richard and James, were given money by their grandparents, which they decided to put immediately into their Investment Accounts and then withdraw half of it to buy Children's Bonus

sidered an instant withdrawal he was charged £4.51. An added irritation was that the charge was taken out of his account 12 days before he actually got the bonus bonds.

"It seems to me that there is a difference between losing interest and actually having to pay National Savings for instant withdrawals."

After intervention by *The Times*, National Savings said that a mistake was made in James's case and he should not have been charged.

It added: "The service he got falls far short of the service we aim to provide. Mistakes do occasionally happen and we have to put our hands up. We will be contacting Mrs Benstead to apologise. However, the new withdrawal option has been warmly welcomed by investors. The level of withdrawals has not changed, but people can now get at their money quickly if they need to."

Bonds that encourage investor loyalty

Many National Savings investors are despairing of the rates they are currently getting on their accounts. But the stark reality is that National Savings rates are not nearly as bad as the rates from equivalent savings at banks and building societies. National Savings also scores on giving comparatively reasonable rates for accounts that have low minimum balances and short notice periods and allow monthly interest criteria normally penalised at banks and building societies.

One of the most popular accounts is the Pensioners Bond, especially since the age qualification was reduced to 60 in the last

Budget. The bond pays 7 per cent gross fixed for a five-year term. There are

Tessas that pay a fixed 7 per cent or more free of tax but require a minimum £3,000, whereas the Pensioners Bond starts at £500. The other attraction of the bond for pensioners is monthly interest payments.

Similarly, Income Bonds pay monthly interest. It is hard to find a building society equivalent — a 90-day account — that gives 6.25 per cent gross on balances of £2,000 to £25,000. Halifax's Solid Gold pays only 3.01-4.51 per cent gross for monthly interest. Northern Rock's Great North Postal account does pay 6.25 per cent and only has 30 days' notice but

interest is annual and the minimum balance is £5,000.

The First Option Bond is a one-year term with a fixed rate of 6.25 per cent gross for £1,000-£20,000 and 6.50 per cent for £25,000-£250,000. Unlike other National Savings the interest is paid net. Bristol & West has a one-year bond paying 6.15 per cent on balances over £5,000. Woolwich gives 6.80 per cent on £1,000 and 7.25 per cent on £25,000 or more but the term is for two years.

National Savings, unlike building societies, has not cut its savings rates with every base rate fall. Its rates are linked more to gilt prices.

NEW FUND LAUNCH

A whole new world of exciting investments, if you know where to look.

For an exciting investment with serious long term growth prospects, turn to the developing world - with the new Schroder Emerging Countries Fund plc.

This new investment trust aims to invest in the brightest opportunities in Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe and Africa: where countries are entering or have already entered a period of rapid industrialisation - and potentially offer dramatic stockmarket growth.

These opportunities will be tracked

down by one of the UK's leading emerging markets fund managers - Schroders. With our extensive local resources we are in an excellent position to identify companies with the very best growth prospects.

Turn potential into profit, with Schroders. Invest in the Schroder Emerging Countries Fund plc.

For more information call 0800 002 000 or return the coupon. Brochures are expected to be sent out shortly after 2nd July.

Call 0800 002 000 Quoting ref: 05

TO: SCHRODER INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED, 01715 FREEPOST 22 (SW1565) LONDON W1E 7EZ.
Please send me a brochure and application forms for the Schroder Emerging Countries Fund plc.

Name _____
Address _____

Schroders

Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. The value of investments and the income from them may fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount they originally invested. Potential investors should be aware that investment in emerging countries involves an above average degree of risk. The Company will invest in securities which are not denominated or quoted in sterling and movements in exchange rates may cause the value of the Company's securities to fluctuate. Investment in the Company should be regarded as long term in nature.

Issued by Schroder Investment Management Limited, regulated by IMRO.

What do you get for **20p** a month?

Performance, and loose change.

It costs just 17.5p to invest the minimum £25 a month in our Private Investor Plan. If you had invested this amount in Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust every month since the Plan's launch over 11 years ago, it would now be worth £9,120*. The Plan allows you to choose from our wide range of investment trusts, invest regular or lump sums and change your investment amounts and frequency without penalty. With its combination of performance, choice and low costs, it offers better value than any other savings and investment plan available. Why not find out more?

BETTER VALUE INVESTMENT IDEAS SINCE 1868

Foreign Colonial

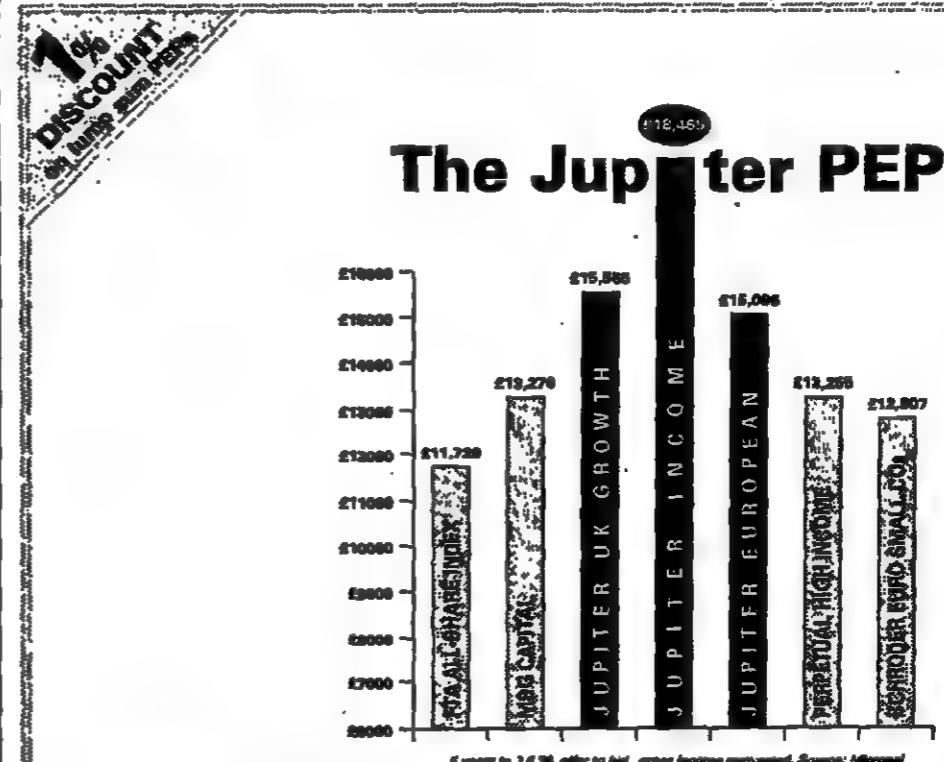
Phone 01734 828 802 or Fax 01734 344 622 any time, quoting the coupon code.

Alternatively return this coupon to: Foreign & Colonial Management Ltd, PO Box 2, Twyford, Berkshire RG10 9NW

Name _____ Address _____ Postcode _____ Code: P2884

5 year performance of £1,000 invested in F&C Inv. Trust PLC £2,026; Investment trust average £1,496, unit trust average £1,691 and Bldg. Soc. £1,312.

The value of shares and the income from them can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the full amount invested. Past performance is not a guide to the future. All figures sourced Micropal, 20 yrs 30.4.91-30.4.95, 5 yrs 30.4.91-30.4.95, Investment trust figures basic mid-market price, including dividends, net, F&C 3.5% nominal expense, F&C Plan charges 0.2% commission, 0.5% stamp duty. Unit trust figures basic offer to bid, net income reinvested. Building Society figures basic highest net rate available (UK Savings £25,000+ rate) total return, net income reinvested. Foreign & Colonial Management Limited (regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority) or its subsidiaries are the Managers of the investment trusts.



Head and shoulders above the rest

How much you get out of your PEP depends first and foremost on investment performance.

This is why, as the chart above demonstrates, you simply can't afford to overlook Jupiter.

Our three long-established PEPable funds - Jupiter Income Trust, Jupiter UK Growth Fund and Jupiter European Fund - have handsomely beaten the best-performing Authorised Unit Trusts investing primarily in the UK and Europe, offered by the three major groups shown.

The Jupiter PEP is also available with our Ecology, High Income and recently-launched UK Special Situations Funds. Monthly savings and quarterly income options are available.

Add the security of investing with an award-winning £5 billion fund management group that is a subsidiary of Germany's third largest bank, Commerzbank and you can see why you can't afford to ignore Jupiter.

Talk to your financial adviser, call us free now, or return the coupon for details on this outstanding PEP.

JUPITER

1995 Fund Management Group of the year.
What Investors

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL FREE ON 0500 6500 97

To: Jupiter Unit Trust Managers Ltd, Knightsbridge House, 187 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RB. Please send me further information on the Jupiter PEPs.
First Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms): _____
Address: _____ Post Code: _____ T1228

You should remember that the value of an investment and the income from it can go down as well as up, and you may not get back the amount invested. Current tax levels and reliefs may change and their value will depend on your individual circumstances. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Up to 10% of the annual management fees is to be taken from capital of Income Trust and High Income Fund. This may accordingly reduce capital growth. Copies of the half-yearly and annual reports may be obtained from Jupiter Unit Trust Managers Ltd, Knightsbridge House, 187 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RB. Scheme particulars may also be obtained from that address. Jupiter Unit Trust Managers Ltd is regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority. Member of AUTP

Caroline Merrell on the new understanding among lenders of the economic realities

Life expectations: many television journalists, like those portrayed in *Drop the Dead Donkey*, are now working on short-term contracts

The number of people with an itinerant lifestyle has increased rapidly over the past few years. Short-term contracts, spells working abroad and the ability to follow a career around the country are the hallmarks of modern life.

Those in the business of lending money for house purchase are always quick to spot a marketing opportunity, which has led to the proliferation of a number of so-called "lifestyle loans" — mortgages which are specifically designed to fit in with new ways of living.

EXPAT WORKERS

More and more people will spend a period of their life working abroad. Many of these expat workers also wish to keep a home in this country for when they return. While borrowing money to fund such purchase can prove to be difficult, some societies will help. Alliance & Leicester, for instance, will allow expats access to its full range of mortgage products. It will lend up to 75 per cent of the property's value. The applicant must have a valid UK passport, and a right of residence in the UK. The loan can be arranged up to two years before the applicant's planned return to the UK.

The society offers a special helpline for expats: 0116 272 2899.

Halifax has a specific division to handle the expat market — Halifax Mortgage Services. The Halifax's usual range of products is available. It will lend up to 80 per cent of the value of the

Loans taking lifestyles into account

property, provided it is ultimately going to be the primary residence. It will also lend only to those who are employees of large multinational companies. The Halifax allows owners to retain their property until they return. It will not load the interest rate.

Other lenders are not so willing to lend in this market. The Abbey National and the Woolwich, for example, will lend only to those who are abroad hoping to buy and rent out a property in this country if they are prepared to pay a higher rate. They both consider such loans commercial lending.

SHORT-TERM CONTRACTS

Contracts of one year, six months and even three months are becoming more typical. Many newspaper and TV journalists, IT workers, teachers and even those who work for local government are now working regularly on

short-term contracts. Previously, lenders would have found it difficult to offer loans to these types of people because they would have felt that they represented a bad lending risk.

Building societies are now more willing to offer finance. The Alliance & Leicester, for instance, this month announced that it intends to make all its mortgage products available to those on short-term contracts in the health and education sectors. Applicants need only to have been employed for three years in the same industry and have a contract of employment for a minimum of six months. Other societies and banks are also adopting a more flexible attitude. Abbey National, for instance, said: "We will lend to people on short-term contracts. For those on one-year contracts, we would expect some kind of assurance that the contract would be renewed at the end of the year." He added: "We are getting

more flexible in our attitude, and will consider those on shorter-term three and six-month contracts. It all depends on the contract and for whom the potential borrower is working." The bank would try not to turn people away.

The Woolwich will also lend to those on short-term contracts, provided certain terms and conditions are met. The borrower has to be a professional, in the public service, in an executive position, or the employer has to confirm in writing that the contract will be renewed.

The Bank of Scotland has a specific loan aimed at short-term contract workers, while the Halifax will try to consider each application on its merits.

FLEXIBLE PAYMENT MORTGAGES

Many mortgage brokers and lenders are now beginning to offer loans which will allow flexible payments. These loans are aimed at those who may suffer periods of unemployment, or at couples whose income drops because they have started a family. Chase de Vere, the mortgage broker, for instance, is offering the Adaptable Lifestyle Mortgage. This loan allows borrowers to overpay, which means they can underpay when their finances are not in such fine shape.

John Charcol also offers a flexible mortgage scheme which allows people to buy a second property without having to sell their existing one.

ADVERTISMENT

Unbiased financial advice that can save you a fortune

INVESTORS and savers alike should take note of alarming statistics recently published by a leading independent financial research company.

It may seem hard to believe, but if you had invested £10,000 five years ago in the best performing UK Equity Growth Unit Trust, your investment would now be worth £25,010. If, on the other hand,

you had been unfortunate enough to invest in the worst performing fund in that sector, the £10,000 investment would now be worth only £10,500 — a difference in growth of over £14,000!*

These figures typify the

Survey reveals greatly differing returns

enlightened attitude towards investment. Steve Royal, marketing director of Investor Intelligence, the nationwide network of independent Financial Advisers, explains: "By considering the whole investment market from an impartial standpoint, the independent Financial Adviser can select the best performing financial products to suit a client's needs — whether the client has £5,000 or £50,000 to invest."

If you would like unbiased financial advice from a local professional, phone Investor Intelligence free, at any time, on 0800 19 20 21.

*Mortgage over 5 years to 23rd April 1995, offer to buy terms, income re-assessed at offer price. The value of shares & the income from them can fall as well as rise. If you withdraw from an investment in the early years, you may not get back the full amount invested. The past is not necessarily a guide to future performance. See terms and conditions on offer leaflet. Personal Investors Advisers do not include some Building Societies and TSSAs. Your local independent financial adviser can help you to choose the right product for you. The Personal Investors Adviser service is available through the UK Central Register of AIMC, House, Crayley Street, Andover, Hampshire, SP10 2JG. Tel: 01264 322222. The service is available through the UK Central Register of AIMC, House, Crayley Street, Andover, Hampshire, SP10 2JG. Tel: 01264 322222.

138% v 86%
GAME, SET AND MATCH
SAVE & PROSPER.

If you had invested in the UK's best performing tracker fund you would only have enjoyed 86% growth.

Compare that to the impressive 138% you'd have got with the Save & Prosper Growth Fund and there's simply no contest.

The Save & Prosper Growth Fund is actively managed. Unlike a tracker fund, which blindly tracks a stockmarket index, even when some of the companies

it's tracking could be in trouble.

The Save & Prosper Growth Fund doesn't restrict you to the UK. Which is good news because there's a whole world of investment opportunities out there.

You don't pay entry or exit charges.

And because it's a PEP you don't have to pay tax, either. Don't settle for coming second and don't wait another second. Call, now.

CALL 0800 829 100

8AM TO 9PM SEVEN DAYS A WEEK



SAVE &
PROSPER

All figures on offer-to-bid basis over 5 years to 1.5.96 with net income reinvested. Garfimore UK Index Fund. Source: Micropal. (Except for the difference between the offer and bid prices. This is currently 0.5%). The value of investments, and any income from them, can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the full amount you invested. Exchange rates also may cause the value of underlying investments to go up or down. Past performance is not a guide to future returns. On 24.5.96 the investment objective of the fund, formerly known as Scotts, was broadened from investment in financial services to investment in any economic sector. The concessions can change and their value will depend on your circumstances. Save & Prosper Group Limited is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and SERU. We only advise on products and services offered by the Flemings and Save & Prosper Marketing Group.

PENSIONS BY PHONE

24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Now you can pick up the phone and get pensions information or advice and even set up a plan, quickly and without fuss.

0345 6789 10

SCOTTISH WIDOWS

Each £1,000 you invest
yields a minimum
£1,300 back
after 5 years
- guaranteed

That's a guaranteed return of 130%, with the potential for higher returns.
Investments in a similar product 5 years ago currently yield 160%.

*PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY A GUIDE TO FUTURE PERFORMANCE

- Wesleyan Assurance Society has 150 years of experience and assets in excess of £1.5 billion.
- If you have to cash in early, you will get at the very minimum, your original investment back after one year.
- As the Wesleyan is a mutual company all the profits are reinvested so the benefits go back to you, the investor.
- If you want advice, we have advisers available to help.
- You can invest from £3,000 to £30,000 in a Guaranteed Growth Bond.

POST THE COUPON TO RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION, OR CALL FREE,
MONDAY - FRIDAY 9AM - 5PM / SATURDAY - SUNDAY 10AM - 4PM.

0800 281472

WESLEYAN
FINANCIAL SERVICES

WESLEYAN ASSURANCE SOCIETY, PART OF THE WESLEYAN FINANCIAL SERVICES MARKETING GROUP IS REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY

Send to: Wesleyan Financial Services, FREEPOST NT2923, Worcester WR1 1BR

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Work

Home

No salesman will call you. Only our customer services team will be able to call you to ensure you have received your information pack.

PEP INVESTORS
NO
TRANSFER CHARGES
NO
WITHDRAWAL FEES
0.5%
ANNUAL CHARGE

Cut your costs and boost your PEP's performance –
transfer to the Index-Tracking PEP now.

Transfer your PEP to Legal & General's Index-Tracking PEP and you could pay far less for a better return.

No other PEP can beat us on charges.

With an annual charge of just 0.5%, you won't find a cheaper PEP anywhere else. Which means your investment's performance isn't held back by high charges. Unlike many other PEPs we don't ask you for a transfer or withdrawal fee either – so more of your money can be invested for growth.

Our performance is no guarantee to future performance. Both capital and income values may go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested. Tax allowances are those currently applicable and are subject to statutory change. The value of tax relief will depend on your individual circumstances. Full written details are available on request. All statements are correct as at 01.04.96.

*Stalke, Microp, on an offer to hold with no income returns from 01.03.91 to 01.02.96.

This figure makes no allowance for any management charges which are applicable to a PEP but our charges would not significantly alter the performance disparity.

Legal & General Unit Trust Managers Limited, Registered in England No 1009439. Registered Office: Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TP. Regulated by DIFC and the Personal Investment Authority.

CALL 0800 11 66 22 FREE

7 DAYS A WEEK 8AM TO 10PM. PLEASE QUOTE REF: TA 802

Post to: Legal & General (Unit Trust Managers) Limited, FREEPOST KX4 474, King Street, London, EC4N 4BB. Please send me full written details of the new Legal & General Index-Tracking PEP.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____

If you already have any PEP investment, please tick here

We never make your name and address available to unconnected organisations. We will occasionally tell you about other products or services offered by ourselves and associated Legal & General companies. Please tick this box if you would prefer not to receive this information

Legal & General
trust us to deliver

The value of a fund may fall if a move is delayed, Sara McConnell advises

Time your transfer for the best returns

Changing jobs does not just mean a different journey to work every day. It can also mean making a decision on whether to leave your company pension where it is or to transfer it, either to another company or to another scheme, a personal pension for example.

If you have worked for your existing firm for less than two years, the decision will be made for you. You will almost certainly not qualify for a transfer but will not be allowed to remain in the scheme either. Your contributions will simply be returned to you. Otherwise you can leave it with your existing employer, deferring payout until you retire or transfer it. Your employer will give you a transfer value.

The problem with this value is that it is only guaranteed for a short time as it depends on equity and gilt price movements. Delays in accepting a transfer value can mean sharp falls, as Ian Lees, a Weekend Money reader, found out.

"On leaving Scottish Widows after six years' service, I decided to transfer my retirement benefit under the Scottish Widows retirement benefit scheme to another provider. I chose Scottish Equitable, which offered a wide range of funds and selected the spread of investment for my pension portfolio. I requested transfer details from Scottish Widows. But when they arrived they did not include the additional voluntary contributions I had made. Scottish Widows sent an amended set of figures, but because there was a delay the transfer value had changed and the value of the fund had fallen by more than £1,000."

Weekend Money replies: The scheme you were in as an employee of Scottish Widows was a scheme whose benefits were based on final salary. To give you a transfer value, Scottish Widows had to work out the value of your benefits and estimate how much it would need to pay out those same benefits when you retire. The key figure in the calculation is the potential rate of investment return. If interest rates and gilt yields rise, as they were doing when you left in June 1994, transfer values



The race is on to get hold of the best transfer



will fall because they depend on the price of gilts used to ensure that the pension scheme can pay out the benefits it has promised. When gilt yields rise, gilt prices fall. Accordingly, Scottish Widows says it only guaranteed your transfer value for six weeks. You queried its failure to include your additional voluntary contributions. It ac-

knowledges that it should have done this and wrote to you again with a revised figure. But it argues that the additional voluntary contributions were separate from the calculation of your main pension because their value simply depended on the contributions you made and how well the contributions were invested in the stock market. They

were not linked to your salary as the main pension was.

But the delay resulted in falls both in the value of the main pension and the additional voluntary contributions, meaning there was a smaller fund to hand to Scottish Equitable. Last year Scottish Widows accepted it had some responsibility for the delay in calculating your transfer value and paid over an extra sum to Scottish Equitable to put you in the position you would have been in if you had received the original transfer value. Because markets had fallen over the time it took to resolve the problem, Scottish Widows paid over less than half of the £1,000 difference between the two transfer values it quoted you.

The problem for anyone taking a transfer value is to know whether they are getting a good deal. Independent financial advisers should use a transfer value analysis system to work out if people are better off taking a transfer. Much depends on the benefits they could expect to get in their existing scheme. Transferring money from a good occupational scheme into a personal pension, for example, would be *advisable* only if it could produce a good enough rate of return to allow the purchase of similar benefits to those available under the occupational scheme.

There is *no need to rush* to take a transfer. If you do not like the quotation you are given you can always wait until markets improve. However, Hyman Wolanski, of Wolanski and Co, the consulting actuaries, gives warning that transfer values generally look set to fall from next April, which will see changes to the way transfers are calculated. Getting your transfer offer analysed is not cheap and will probably cost £100 or more because of the complexities involved. But it could prove money well spent.

WHERE TO GO
The following will analyse pension transfers: Wolanski and Co 0171-831 9343; Pensionline 0181-643 9663; Lexis 01952 463436 (Note: Lexis will not accept retrospective analysis to establish potential mis-selling).

**Are you too
busy earning
money to
make money?**

If you're working hard for your money, you may not have the time – or the expertise – to ensure that you're making the most of the amounts you can afford to save or invest.

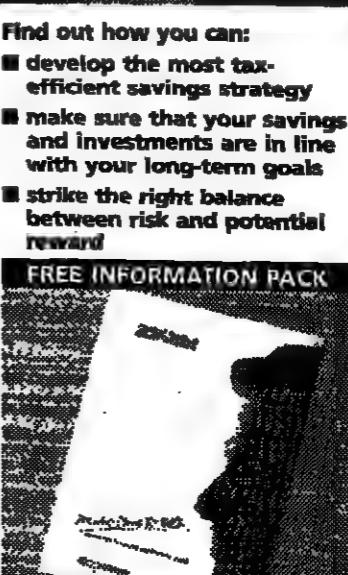
As a result, it's easy to miss out. You may be missing opportunities to save tax. You may have money in accounts which offer uncompetitive growth rates. Or equally, you may be putting your money at unnecessary and inappropriate risk.

When you've worked so hard to earn it in the first place, this can't be right. That's why, at Clerical Medical, we've introduced a service specifically designed for busy, professional people. It's called ProVision, and it can give you expert advice on how you could maximise the return on your savings.

In fact, its purpose is to develop a valuable blueprint for all your financial affairs, recommending only Clerical Medical's investment, pension and life assurance products.

We've prepared a full information pack, without charge or obligation, which spells out how it's different, and why it's better.

For your copy, and **free ProVision pen**, call us now on 0800 80 60 60 quoting ref 11516 or return the coupon below.



Note: The terms of the offer may be repeated in the future, but cannot be guaranteed. Only one pen per household.

Call Free on 0800 80 60 60

Lines open 8am to 9pm Monday to Thursday, 8am to 5pm Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday

Only available to residents in England and Wales.

Yes, please send me a free Information Pack on financial planning with ProVision, along with my complimentary ProVision pen. Post today, without a stamp, to: Clerical Medical Investment Group, Financial Planning Centre, FREEPOST, Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0AB.

PROVISION
Financial Planning for the Professional

Address _____

Postcode _____

Date of birth / /

Telephone (home) _____

(work) _____

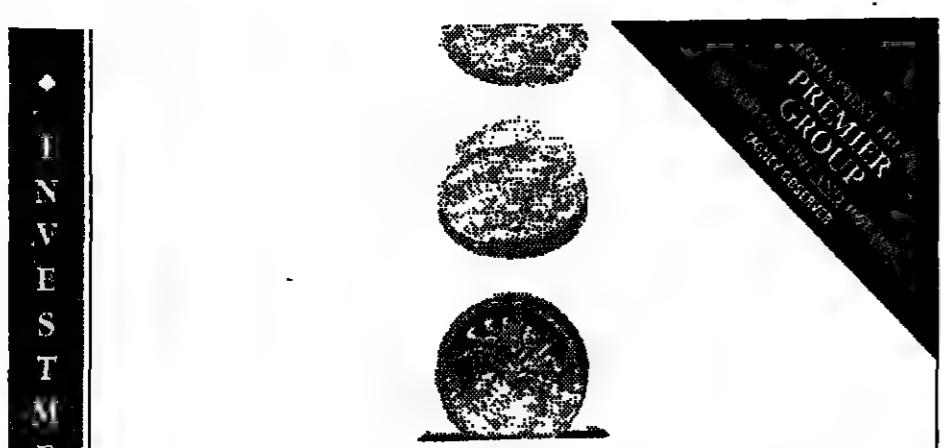
Independent Financial Adviser (if any) _____

The details you provide in response to this communication may be held by Clerical Medical on computer, and may be used to keep you informed about products and services provided by us and other organisations which we think will be of interest to you. If you prefer that we do not telephone or write to you with this information, please write to us at the above address. We may call you to make sure you have been supplied with the information you require. The value of investments may go up and as for any other financial products with a risk element, you may not get back the amount you invested. Clerical Medical Investment Group, Clerical Medical and Clerical Medical Investment Group, Clerical Medical and General Life Assurance Society, 30000 and its subsidiaries and affiliates market a wide range of savings, investment and pension products.

11516

Clerical Medical
INVESTMENT GROUP

BUSINESS INSURANCE
CALL ON THE VALUE GUINNESS



Save IT

The potential of the world's leading stockmarkets is yours from only £1 a day when you save with Investment Trusts managed by Edinburgh

One pound a day is all it takes to build up a really worthwhile capital sum through the investment trust savings schemes from Edinburgh.

Choice of Trusts By saving a minimum of £30 a month - just £1 a day - or in lump sums from £250, you can invest in your choice of fifteen trusts in markets all around the world.

Building up Capital £30 a month saved in an average investment trust since 30 June 1990 would now be worth £3317.53. That is £921 more than a

similar sum saved in a building society and many trusts have performed far better.*

The Award-winning IT Manager Edinburgh is one of Scotland's most successful investment trust managers. Following our merger with Dunedin we manage over £4 billion in investment trusts* and operate a choice of investment trust saving schemes.

Act Now! Call the Investment Trust Helpdesk free on 0800 838 993 to receive the Edinburgh SaveIT brochure and Dunedin Share Plan brochure.



FREE 0800 838 993

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS and return to Investment Trust Helpdesk, Edinburgh Fund Managers plc, Freeyear Edinburgh EH4 1HR.

Name _____ Address _____ Tel No. _____

Please note that past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The value of shares and the income from them may fall as well as rise and may be affected by exchange rate movements. Investors may not get back the amount they invested. *Source: Municipal, 30 June 1990 (Launch date of SaveIT), then the BTP Investment Trust Purchase Scheme to 30 April 1996. FT-SE-A Investment Trust Index and Building Society Highest Rate Account, net income invested. * As at 29 April 1996. Regulated by IMRO

Fortunately for you,
our new bond
grows a lot quicker than
the Bonsai.



It's about time.

The Bristol & West Year Plus Deposit Bond offers you the best fixed rate* on any similar Bond (2 years or less) from any Top Ten Building Society.

Just as the Bonsai requires careful nurturing and specialist care, your investment is in safe and specialist hands with the Bristol & West. But, unlike the Bonsai, we can promise you a spectacular display on November 5th 1997.

You'll have to be pretty quick yourself. This market leading Bond is offered on a strictly first come, first served basis.

Call in at your local branch, telephone free on 0800 20 21 21 for details, or complete the coupon now and enclose it with your cheque. You'll definitely have something to celebrate on November 5th 1997.

BRISTOL & WEST

BRISTOL & WEST BUILDING SOCIETY

*Reference to Best Rate products are based on 1996/97, Scheme Plus Policy Holder. Current rates of interest do not take account of deflections of interest tax. If you are eligible to receive your interest wholly or partially on a basic rate basis, then the rates shown are not fully deductible. This rates shown here relate to the rates of interest for 1st April 1996. Minimum investment and associated requirements will be the terms and conditions of the account. Withdrawals and fees from the Year Plus Deposit Bond are not permitted. Bristol & West Building Society is a member of the Building Societies Association and of the Building Societies Deposit Protection Scheme, and subject to the Code of Banking Practice. Bristol & West Building Society, PO Box 27, Bristol, BS9 7PA.

Alliance savers hit as top rates are bonus-free

The Alliance & Leicester Building Society doubtless hoped to score a couple of Brownie points with its members when it announced plans to convert itself to a bank at the beginning of the year. It promised savers that they would not lose their right to a bonus if they wanted to move their money from one share account to another, between announcement and conversion.

What it did not say so clearly was that it had restructured its savings accounts so that the best rates were paid on new deposit accounts set up just before the announcement. Surprise, surprise, holders of deposit accounts are not members and do not qualify for bonus payments.

Brian Gray, a Weekend Money reader, invested £15,000 in Alliance & Leicester's Bonus 90 share account early in 1995. Now this has been converted from a 90-day notice to a 30-day notice account, paying just 3.75 per cent gross on balances of between £10,000 and £24,999. This includes an annual bonus of 0.5 per cent.

By contrast, the new Prime 90 deposit account pays 5.2 per cent gross. If the society's conversion goes ahead (which depends on the members), savers trying to get a better rate on their investment by moving to Prime 90 would not qualify for a bonus payout.

One possibility for existing savers in Mr Gray's position, as he points out, is to move from the Bonus 90 account to Bonus 180, also a share account. Bonus 180 is now a 60-day notice account. But it still pays slightly less (5.15 per cent) on £15,000 than Prime 90.

This week, Alliance & Leicester repeated its pledge that savers would not be penalised by moving from one share account to another. It also confirmed that deposit ac-

SOCIETY WATCH

count holders do not count as members. These are valuable clues to members who are still being kept in the dark about the likely amount of payouts or how the share out will be structured on conversion.

Alliance & Leicester is among a number of building societies that have made strenuous efforts to keep out "speculators" by restructuring their accounts and, incidentally, preserving the margin between what they pay to savers and what they receive from borrowers.

But its manipulation of interest rates has not endeared it to customers like Mr Gray, who says: "I accept that business is business and hopefully I will benefit significantly from any ultimate share distribution by the Alliance & Leicester. However... I also feel that existing mutual societies should be able to offer a better deal for many customers/members if there was any effective way that members could influence management and control the target level for acquisition of profits and any distribution of pre-existing reserves."

Last week, the Northern Rock, which also plans to convert, was forced to announce that it would be opening a share version of its competitive Great North postal account after protests that the deposit version did not qualify holders for membership. The pressure is on.

SARA MCCONNELL



Ownership of the OFC birds, which are under the care of a Belgian ostrich farmer, is unclear.

Official Receiver given the birds

Robert Miller
on the latest
developments
for ostrich
investors

he hoped to make a decision much sooner. The judge also acknowledged the existence of the 1,600-strong Ostrich Owners Protection Group (OOPG).

Derek Bradley, a founder member of the group, said: "We are not taking sides with the OFC or the DTI. We want to look at what happens now and how we can protect our birds. We believe that there is a commercial future for ostrich farming, but whatever we decide, and we are looking at a number of options such as an owners' group company, it will comply with the law. We are in touch with Eddy Nachtergael's representative in London."

One problem about a potential rescue company is that it could fall foul of the Financial Services Act (FSA).

Pamela Marshall of the Securities and Investments Board, the chief City watchdog, says: "Past experience has shown that schemes of this type have given rise to difficulties because some of them have breached the FSA as unauthorised collective investment schemes. Any such schemes have to be looked at on their own merits, to see whether or not they need authorisation or break the law."

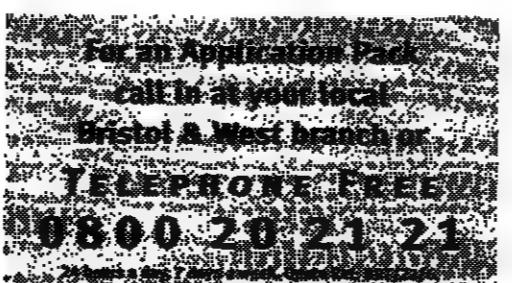
A solution to the Pinstripe and OFC problem is likely to be a tortuous one. But to those contemplating such an investment the attention of, at different times the SFO, the SIB and the DTI should be enough to sound a note of caution.

Ostrich Owners' Protection Group: High Trees, Oakridge, Wetherby LS22 6GT.
Official Receiver: 21 Bloomsbury Street, London, WC1B 3SS



ANNUAL INTEREST	MONTHLY INTEREST
£5,000 to £1,000,000	6.50% 5.20% 6.31% 5.05%

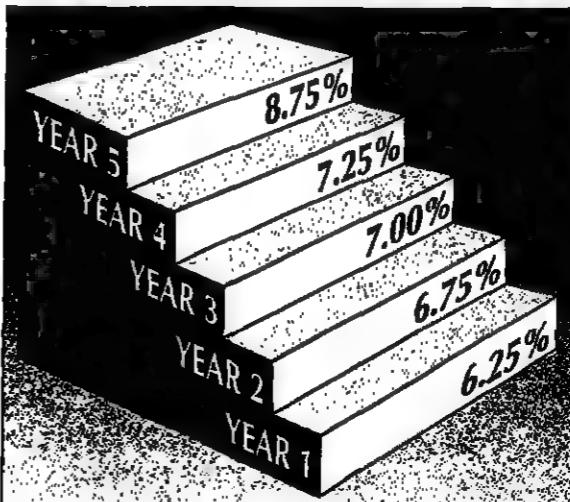
The Year Plus Deposit Bond is a deposit account and will not qualify for any distribution under the proposed transfer of the Society's business to Bank of Ireland Group. If you are an existing investing member, before withdrawing or transferring funds from an existing share class of account, please refer to the "Answers to your Questions" leaflet which you have been sent in relation to the proposed transfer to Bank of Ireland Group. Alternatively you may telephone the membership information line on 0800 666653.



To open your account by post please complete this coupon and enclose it with your cheque made payable to: "Bristol & West Building Society" followed by your name(s) and crossed "account payee" and confirmation of identity in the form of a current Council Tax demand or an original bank statement or utility bill (less than three months old). If we would like to open a Year Plus Deposit Bond and enclose a cheque for £1,000.00. I/we would like my/our interest paid: Monthly: On maturity: Please send me more information on the Year Plus Deposit Bond.

NAME (INCL. TITLE): _____
ADDRESS: _____
POSTCODE: _____
PHONE NUMBER: _____
Please send to: The Year Plus Deposit Bond, (Issue 1), Bristol & West Building Society, FREEPOST, Bristol, BS38 7EP.

NOW EARN STEPPED INTEREST WITH TESSA



• Stepped TESSA guarantees an annual increased return for five years regardless of market conditions.

- Available as a Secondary TESSA to all maturing TESSA account holders in the UK.
- Minimum investment £9,000 and interest is paid tax-free after five years.
- Limited issue which may be withdrawn at the bank's discretion.
- Guaranteed maturity figure after 5 years will be £12,739.

For more information please call our 24-hour answerphone on 0171-626-0879 or 0171-203-1550 during office hours. Alternatively complete the coupon and FREEPOST it to us.

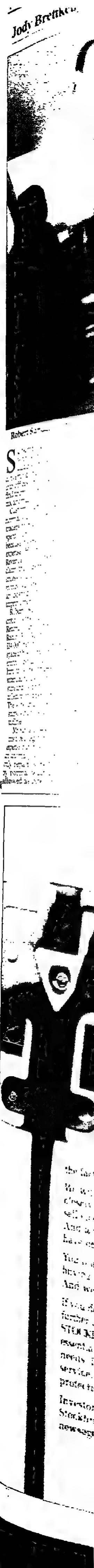
ALLIED TRUST BANK

A member of the Investec Group

To: Allied Trust Bank Limited, FREEPOST, London EC4B 4RN
Please send me details of the Stepped Tax Exempt Special Savings Account (TESSA).

Name: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____
Allied Trust Bank Limited, Cannon Bridge, 25 Dowgate Hill, London EC4R 2AT.

The rates quoted are gross compound annual rates. No withdrawals of capital are allowed within the five year period. Under current Inland Revenue regulations, interest received from a TESSA is not subject to tax.



Jody Brett Kelly on a tax anomaly that can upset the best-laid building plans



Robert Sandall, right, holding a consultation with Chris Ellard, his accountant, in the refurbished £14,000 attic

Self-employed workers who want to offset taxes against money spent on converting their lofts or barns into offices or workshops may find themselves caught up in a tax anomaly.

Customs and Excise will normally allow VAT-registered traders to reclaim all the VAT spent on the conversion, because it views it as a business expense. However, the Inland Revenue will not permit you to claim the expense against tax unless you can prove that the money was spent on repairs to an existing office and not on improvements.

Robert Sandall, a music critic working for Virgin Records and presenter of Radio 3's *Mixing It*, spent £14,000 refurbishing an attic space at his home in Hanmer-smith, west London, to enable him to work there. He also intended to use it as a place to store and listen to his extensive collection of tapes and records. The work included installing stairs, windows and washing facilities.

Mr Sandall, 44, considered this to be a legitimate business expense but tax law contains an anomaly which rules that only repair work "occurred by normal wear and tear" is allowed as expenses. Improve-

Hidden trap in an attic conversion

ments and reconstruction to premises are considered to be of a capital nature and therefore not allowed.

The Inland Revenue disputed the entire claim on these grounds, suggesting that as no office existed before, he was in fact enhancing the property rather than repairing an existing office.

VAT criteria are different and after a Customs and Excise officer inspected the premises he was able to reclaim the full amount of VAT – £2,500.

Mr Sandall consulted Chris Ellard of Neville Ellard, his

Surrey-based accountant who specialises in tax claims by actors and performing artists. After meeting the tax inspector they were able to demonstrate that the attic had been used to store equipment and because it was being used as storage again, the work undertaken included a considerable element of repair and refurbishment.

Eventually, the Inland Revenue allowed Mr Sandall to claim around 30 per cent of the expenditure against his taxes. Being a higher-rate taxpayer, this represented a saving of £1,400.

Mr Ellard says: "Repair work is not specifically defined, which means it is open to different interpretations. The inspector has no idea exactly what has been undertaken so you have to demonstrate exactly what you've spent your money on."

INVESTORS CHRONICLE
THE CITY INSIDE OUT

BRITISH ENERGY SHARES UNEARTHED

British Energy is likely to be the last chance private investors will get to profit from privatisation. Or maybe not.

In this week's issue of Investors Chronicle we'll give you the facts on this latest share offer.

We will examine the business's financial prospects in detail and closely analyse the risks involved. Will British Energy be able to sell electricity at sufficient margins to sustain long-term growth? And what effect will the cost of decommissioning power stations have on profits?

You'll also get our verdict on whether or not the shares are worth buying and if it's an appropriate investment for private investors. And we will indicate what dividend yield investors can expect.

If you do decide to buy these shares or any other, you might like further advice. You need look no further than the Investors Chronicle STOCKBROKER SURVEY, also in this week's issue. It will provide essential information to help you choose a stock-broker to meet your needs. It looks closely at fees and charges, the importance of good service, the issues surrounding nominee names, and customer protection and compensation.

Investors Chronicle complete with British Energy feature and Stockbroker Survey is on sale Friday 21st June. From your newsagent, price £2.20.

FT
FINANCIAL TIMES
Weekend

The Stockbroker Survey includes the voting form for the Investors Chronicle Awards sponsored by ICV. Vote now and enter your draw for a year's PC Market-Eye for Windows £1,500.



New Investment Trust PEP now available from INVESCO

INVESCO is one of the world's largest independent global investment management organisations – we have over £56 billion under management* and an impressive collection of awards for our performance: UK Fund Manager of the Year 1995** and Best Performance by an Individual Investment Trust (INVESCO English and International) over the three years to 31st December 1995***.

Mr Ellard says that it is important to consider the previous use of the space you are considering converting, and to underline the fact that it was used as an office or storage space previously. If you are restructuring the space into something totally different – for example soundproofing a garage – you could run into problems.

It helps, too, to photograph the room before and after, to show exactly what has been done to it. It is also helpful to have different companies specifying the work they have undertaken, or if you are using a loft conversion company to get it to provide a full breakdown of the precise repair and renewal work.

Mr Ellard says: "Repair work is not specifically defined, which means it is open to different interpretations. The inspector has no idea exactly what has been undertaken so you have to demonstrate exactly what you've spent your money on."

Call 0800 010 333

Please complete and post to INVESCO, FREEPOST, 11 Devonshire Square, London EC2B 2TT.

Please send me more details on INVESCO's Investment Trust PEP.

We may telephone to ensure you have received the literature.

Surname _____

(Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) _____ Initials _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____

INVESCO
Your Global Investment Partner

3 Year Guaranteed Growth Bond

8.75%

6.25%	7.00%	8.75%
Year 1 (gross p.a.)	Year 2 (gross p.a.)	Year 3 (gross p.a.)

Whatever happens to interest rates over the next 3 years, the Woolwich's new 3 Year Guaranteed Growth Bond guarantees an increasing return on your investment.

Invest from a minimum of £1,000 for 3 years and even if general interest rates fall, we guarantee gross rates of 6.25% in the first year, 7.00% in the second and 8.75% in the third. Interest can be paid monthly or annually.

You will appreciate that no withdrawals can be made during the three year term.

The 3 Year Guaranteed Growth Bond is a limited offer so send in the coupon with your cheque today to Woolwich Building Society, FREEPOST (DT98), Kingswood House, Sidcup, Kent DA14 4BR.

Alternatively, call in to your local Woolwich branch or telephone us free on 0800 22 22 00 quoting ref: TG226.

<http://www.woolwich.co.uk/woolwich>

**It's good to be with the
WOOLWICH**
BUILDING SOCIETY

Woolwich Building Society, FREEPOST, DT98, Kingswood House, Sidcup, Kent DA14 4BR

I enclose £ _____ to invest in a Woolwich 3 Year Guaranteed Growth Bond min £1,000

Cheques made payable to Woolwich Building Society. Interest to be paid annually/monthly (delete as appropriate)

Please send me further details of the Woolwich 3 Year Guaranteed Growth Bond

Name _____
(Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)

Address _____

Postcode _____ Telephone _____

Signed _____

"You can with
the Woolwich"

Gross rates for monthly incomes Year 1: 6.08%, Year 2: 6.78%, Year 3: 8.42%. Interest will be payable net of the lower rate of income tax (currently 20%), or subject to the required certification, gross. Where the tax deducted exceeds an investor's tax liability (if any), a claim may be made to the Inland Revenue for repayment of tax. For individuals whose income falls within the lower or basic tax bands, the tax deducted will match their liability to tax on the interest and they will have no more tax to pay on it. Individuals who are liable at the higher rate of income tax of 40% will have to pay additional tax on the interest to cover the difference between the tax deducted and the higher rate tax due. Rates are fixed as shown for 3 years from the date the account is opened until 31/12/99. Year 1 from the date of opening account up to and including 31/5/97, Year 2 1.6.97 – 31.5.98 Year 3 1.6.98 – 31.5.99. Interest will be calculated daily, from the day of receipt in the case of a deposit of cash and from the fourth bank working day after receipt in the case of a deposit by cheque. Proof of identity may be required. No withdrawals are permitted during the 3 year term. Additional investments are permitted only while this issue of the Bond is still on offer. Full terms and conditions available on request from any Woolwich branch. Woolwich Building Society, Corporate HQ, Watling Street, Bexleyheath, Kent DA5 4RZ.

TG226

Postal accounts beat the strike

A second 24-hour national strike has been announced from noon on Thursday June 27 to noon on Friday June 28 by Royal Mail workers. The first strike was yesterday. In view of the likely disruption to the postal service, the following arrangements will apply for postal account customers.

Nationwide Invest Direct Postal Account holders can make emergency cheque withdrawals at any branch between Thursday and Tuesday. Cash withdrawals can be made as usual from cash machines. Any cheques received at Invest Direct on Monday will be backedate to Friday so that customers suffer no loss of interest.

Bristol and West Direct Savings (postal and telephone) Account holders can use the telephone option to access up to £25,000. Cheques will still be sent out by post. Postal Deposit Account customers will be able to make transactions only by post.

Birmingham Midshires will collect all post that has been sorted by midnight on Thursday direct from the local sorting office the next morning. Staff levels will also be increased for Saturday and Monday to cover the anticipated

LIZANNE ROSE

Leeds & Holbeck has made no special provisions to cover the strike. If customers need to make an urgent transaction, the usual arrangements apply at a cost of £30. Call 0113 225 7777.

Northern Rock suggests that customers adjust transaction times to avoid strike days. Call 0191 2794405 (postal investment inquiries only).

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME

Rates as at September 20, 1995

Investment (£)	Company	Standard Rate (%)
1 Year	AIG Life	4.85
10,000	AIG Life	4.95
20,000	AIG Life	5.15
50,000	Gen L & Pensions	5.20
2 Years	Pinnacle Insur	5.70
10,000	AIG Life	5.70
20,000	AIG Life	5.80
50,000	AIG Life	5.90
3 Years	Pinnacle Insur	6.10
10,000	AIG Life	6.03
20,000	AIG Life	6.08
50,000	AIG Life	6.18
4 Years	Premium Life	5.00
3,000	Pinnacle Insur	8.40
50,000	AIG Life	8.41
5 Years	Premium Life	5.45
3,000	Pinnacle Insur	6.65
15,000	Abbey Life	6.80
50,000	Abbey Life	7.00

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

SAVINGS & BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Portman BS 01202 232444	Instant Acc	Instant	£100	4.80	Y/Y
Alliance & Leic BS 0645 645680	Instant Dlr	Postal	£5,000	5.40	Y/Y
Bristol & West BS 0800 901109	Inst Acc Post	Postal	£10,000	5.75	Y/Y
Northern Rock BS 0500 505000	Gt Nth Postal	Postal	£25,000	6.50	Y/Y

NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Coventry BS 0345 665522	Postal 50	50 day p	£2,000	5.45	Y/Y
First National BS 0800 558844	90 Day Notice	90 day p	£10,000	6.20	Y/Y
Scarborough BS 0800 590578	Scarborough 100	100 day	£1,000	6.50	Y/Y
Northern Rock BS 0500 505000	Postal Dep Bond	30.6.95	£2,500	7.50	F/Y/Y

FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505		5 year	£8,575	7.50	F/Y/Y
NatWest Bank 0800 200400		5 year	£5,000	7.45	F/Y/Y
Birmingham Midshires 0645 720721		5 year	£1,000	7.25	Y/Y
Principality BS 01222 344188		5 year	£2500	7.00	Y/Y

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR	Fee per annum
Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa	0.8961%	11.20%	N/A
NatWest Bank 0800 200400	Access	0.9564%	12.00%	N/A
Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa	1.00%	14.00%	£12

PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

PERSONAL LOANS	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3 yrs with insurance	no insurance
Direct Line 0141 2489966	13.90%	£112.86	£101.33
Yorkshire Bank 0345 181920	14.60%	£117.88	£102.09
Midland 0800 180100	14.90%	£115.82	£102.49

No. = All withdrawals subject to 30 day loss of interest. C = no interest free period. E = Available to comprehensive motor insurance policyholders over 22 years. F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable). N = Introductory rate for a limited period. P = By Post only

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

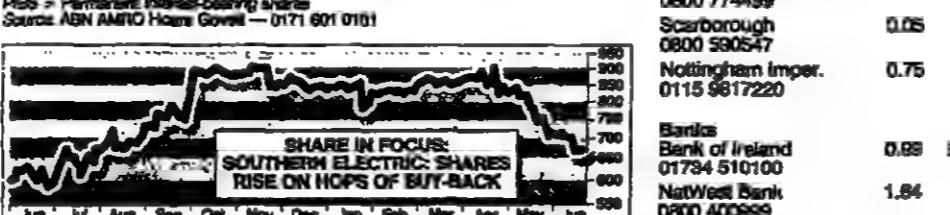
Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01622 500 877)

PIBS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires 9.975%	99.69	9.953	100.17	1,000	
Bristol & Bingley 11.625%	115.76	9.789	100.13	10,000	
Bristol & Bingley 13.000%	133.02	9.673	100.20	10,000	
Britannia 13.375%	138.18	9.679	100.34	1,000	
Coventry 12.125%	133.12	9.788	100.42	1,000	
First National 11.750%	116.03	10.127	100.25	10,000	
Halifax 8.750%	92.00	9.510	100.65	50,000	
Halifax 12.000%	123.75	9.569	100.28	50,000	
Leeds & Holbeck 13.625%	141.78	9.610	100.00	50,000	
Leeds & Holbeck 13.375%	138.28	9.673	100.23	1,000	
Newcastle 10.750%	114.37	9.388	100.32	1,000	
Newcastle 12.525%	133.23	9.476	100.45	1,000	
Northern Rock 12.625%	135.07	9.347	100.14	1,000	
Skipton 12.875%	133.32	9.657	100.48	1,000	

FLOATING RATE

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Cheshire 29/03/95-20/03/96 8.56750%	104.63	100.00	1,000	
First Nat/20/03/95-07/05/95 8.70525%	101.13	100.00	1,000	



Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Source: Chamberlain de Broi 0171-434 4822.

Gilts higher but equities are flat

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Gilts higher but equities are flat

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High	Low	Company	Price	Yd	Mo	Yr	PE	High	Low	Company	Price	Yd	Mo	Yr	PE
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES															
55	45	Bromer	553	-	1	22	12	55	45	Brundred 601	520	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	520	-	1	22	12	55	45	Brown-Forman	513	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	513	-	1	22	12	55	45	Cadbury	510	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	510	-	1	22	12	55	45	Cadbury	508	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	508	-	1	22	12	55	45	Charles Goding	505	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	505	-	1	22	12	55	45	Chivas Regal	503	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	503	-	1	22	12	55	45	Coca Cola	500	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	500	-	1	22	12	55	45	Coors	498	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	498	-	1	22	12	55	45	Coupe Motors	495	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	495	-	1	22	12	55	45	Davidson	493	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	493	-	1	22	12	55	45	Deutsche	491	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	491	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	489	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	489	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	487	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	487	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	485	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	485	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	483	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	483	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	481	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	481	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	479	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	479	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	477	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	477	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	475	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	475	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	473	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	473	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	471	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	471	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	469	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	469	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	467	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	467	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	465	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	465	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	463	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	463	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	461	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	461	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	459	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	459	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	457	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	457	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	455	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	455	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	453	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	453	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	451	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	451	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	449	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	449	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	447	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	447	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	445	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	445	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	443	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	443	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	441	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	441	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	439	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	439	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	437	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	437	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	435	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	435	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	433	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	433	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	431	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	431	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	429	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	429	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	427	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	427	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	425	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	425	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	423	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	423	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	421	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	421	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	419	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	419	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	417	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	417	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	415	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	415	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	413	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	413	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	411	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	411	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	409	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	409	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	407	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	407	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	405	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	405	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	403	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	403	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	401	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	401	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	399	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	399	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	397	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	397	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	395	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	395	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	393	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	393	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	391	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	391	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	389	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	389	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	387	-	1	22	12
55	45	Bromer	387	-	1	22	12	55	45	Diageo	385	-	1	22	12
55															

TENNIS

Seles eases injury concerns with success at double

By Alex Ramsay

SHE could not go to practise at the All England Club last weekend in preparation for Wimbledon, but Monica Seles certainly got the workout that she wanted at Eastbourne yesterday. Over 2hr 11min, and two matches, she made her way to the final of the Direct Line Insurance championships beating Ines Gorrochategui 6-3, 6-1 in the quarters and Nathalie Tauziat 6-4, 6-4 in the semi-finals.

Last Saturday Seles had been in London for a book-signing and had pondered the chance to go to get the feel of Wimbledon after her four-year absence. Rules, though, are rules and, even if you are the world joint No 1, the All England Club is a members-only type of place. "I think you have to be a member to play there and you have to be a member," she said. That is one thing that Seles has, as yet, failed to do.

On her showing yesterday, her chances of doing well are looking better, but winning is another matter. Tauziat may be an experienced grass-court player — she won the Eastbourne title last year — but she is not exactly a favourite to break into the cosy cartel of players vying for a place come women's final day in SW19.

Gorrochategui had warmed up Seles nicely in the morning.

Siemerink ends British hopes

Great Britain's last hope of victory in the Nottingham Open ended yesterday when Greg Rusedski lost his semi-final. Rusedski, the British No 2, went out 7-6, 6-3 to Jan Siemerink, the No 5 seed, from Holland, who beat Nathalie Tauziat 6-4, 6-4 in the semi-finals.

The two基层ers sparred

from the back court in what looked like an extended practice session. Gorrochategui, 23, from Argentina, is good, but not that good. Ranked No 83 in the world, she does not have the wherewithal to beat Seles at her own game.

The only question mark was whether Seles's ailing shoulder could withstand the pressure.

Seles, on the other hand,

was stuck to the baseline like glue. Coming forward looked to be a life-threatening operation. She claims to be happy to volley in practice, and was happy with the number of times she tried the manoeuvre against Gorrochategui, even if half a dozen trips to the net over two sets does not a serve and volley make. With Tauziat, though, the fear-factor crept in once again.

"It is all confidence," she said. "Whenever I have come in, I've been pretty successful. It's just feeling comfortable and being able to read the player. I knew Nathalie was a good player and we always have one close set in every match we play. I knew one or two points could decide it and I didn't feel happy to come in."

As a tactic, it may work in

shoulder once or twice in each game, but that's pretty normal. I just have to think positive and block it out."

Certainly it did not seem to impede her serving power. Tauziat could engineer only two break points throughout the match and converted only one of those, in the second set. She knew what she had to do to beat Seles. It was just that she could not do it often enough. If she stayed back, she was overpowered; if she came in, she had to be at her sharpest to avoid being passed.

Siemerink, on the other hand,



Seles whips a forehand return down the line against Gorrochategui at Eastbourne

was stuck to the baseline like glue. Coming forward looked to be a life-threatening operation. She claims to be happy to volley in practice, and was happy with the number of times she tried the manoeuvre against Gorrochategui, even if half a dozen trips to the net over two sets does not a serve and volley make. With Tauziat, though, the fear-factor crept in once again.

"It is all confidence," she said. "Whenever I have come in, I've been pretty successful. It's just feeling comfortable and being able to read the player. I knew Nathalie was a good player and we always have one close set in every match we play. I knew one or two points could decide it and I didn't feel happy to come in."

As a tactic, it may work in

she didn't win it." That was Conchita Martinez's problem. She failed to get beyond her quarter-final against Mary Joe Fernandez. Martinez appeared to be cruising, winning the first set 6-2, but was then

thrown by a line call and proceeded to fall apart. She lost the next five games. Before long, the match was gone, too. 6-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Results, page 52

YESTERDAY'S RACING RESULTS

Royal Ascot

Going: good to firm. **2000 METRES CASTLE STAKES** (2-1) 21st. 1. Gossamer (20) 21st. 2. Dazzle (1) 1. Gossamer (20) 21st. 3. Bell's Baffin (20) (Cheveley Park Stud) 8-3-6-5. 1. Vax Star (1) 1. Petrol (1) 1. Vox Lady (New Ltd) 8-3-6-5. 1. Camel (11-1) 5.

ALSO RAN: 1. 9-2 Tafun Rock (4th) 6. Causus Royale (5th) 7. McLeish, 8. Superior Premium (5th) 10. Abolenco, 20. Endre's Repro. Lamoura, 10. Nellie, 11. Carrera, 12. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 635. 636. 637. 638. 638. 639. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 645. 646. 647. 648. 648. 649. 649. 650. 650. 651. 651. 652. 652. 653. 653. 654. 654. 655. 655. 656. 656. 657. 657. 658. 658. 659. 659. 660. 660. 661. 661. 662. 662. 663. 663. 664. 664. 665. 665. 666. 666. 667. 667. 668. 668. 669. 669. 670. 670. 671. 671. 672. 672. 673. 673. 674. 674. 675. 675. 676. 676. 677. 677. 678. 678. 679. 679. 680. 680. 681. 681. 682. 682. 683. 683. 684. 684. 685. 685. 686. 686. 687. 687. 688. 688. 689. 689. 690. 690. 691. 691. 692. 692. 693. 693. 694. 694. 695. 695. 696. 696. 697. 697. 698. 698. 699. 699. 700. 700. 701. 701. 702. 702. 703. 703. 704. 704. 705. 705. 706. 706. 707. 707. 708. 708. 709. 709. 710. 710. 711. 711. 712. 712. 713. 713. 714. 714. 715. 715. 716. 716. 717. 717. 718. 718. 719. 719. 720. 720. 721. 721. 722. 722. 723. 723. 724. 724. 725. 725. 726. 726. 727. 727. 728. 728. 729. 729. 730. 730. 731. 731. 732. 732. 733. 733. 734. 734. 735. 735. 736. 736. 737. 737. 738. 738. 739. 739. 740. 740. 741. 741. 742. 742. 743. 743. 744. 744. 745. 745. 746. 746. 747. 747. 748. 748. 749. 749. 750. 750. 751. 751. 752. 752. 753. 753. 754. 754. 755. 755. 756. 756. 757. 757. 758. 758. 759. 759. 760. 760. 761. 761. 762. 762. 763. 763. 764. 764. 765. 765. 766. 766. 767. 767. 768. 768. 769. 769. 770. 770. 771. 771. 772. 772. 773. 773. 774. 774. 775. 775. 776. 776. 777. 777. 778. 778. 779. 779. 780. 780. 781. 781. 782. 782. 783. 783. 784. 784. 785. 785. 786. 786. 787. 787. 788. 788. 789. 789. 790. 790. 791. 791. 792. 792. 793. 793. 794. 794. 795. 795. 796. 796. 797. 797. 798. 798. 799. 799. 800. 800. 801. 801. 802. 802. 803. 803. 804. 804. 805. 805. 806. 806. 807. 807. 808. 808. 809. 809. 810. 810. 811. 811. 812. 812. 813. 813. 814. 814. 815. 815. 816. 816. 817. 817. 818. 818. 819. 819. 820. 820. 821. 821. 822. 822. 823. 823. 824. 824. 825. 825. 826. 826. 827. 827. 828. 828. 829. 829. 830. 830. 831. 831. 832. 832. 833. 833. 834. 834. 835. 835. 836. 836. 837. 837. 838. 838. 839. 839. 840. 840. 841. 841. 842. 842. 843. 843. 844. 844. 845. 845. 846. 846. 847. 847. 848. 848. 849. 849. 850. 850. 851. 851. 852. 852. 853. 853. 854. 854. 855. 855. 856. 856. 857. 857. 858. 858. 859. 859. 860. 860. 861. 861. 862. 862. 863. 863. 864. 864. 865. 86

New faces take the honours on opening day

GREAT Britain and Ireland opened a three-point lead over the United States on a gloriously sunny first day of the Curtis Cup here in Killarney. This margin is in danger of becoming traditional. In 1988 and 1992, GB & I led by this same margin at the end of the first day and both times they went on to victory.

The morning foursomes, which contained much poor putting and bad play, were halved 1½-1½. After lunch, though, the home side lost only one of the six singles and halved another to take the afternoon's play by 4½-1½.

"If you had offered me that result at the start I would have taken it. I am so proud of the girls," said Ita Butler, the GB & I captain, said. "I am particularly proud of the new players. The Curtis Cup is a huge experience and they played brilliantly."

Team matches like these often swing on the selection or non-selection of one player over another. It may yet be that if the US lose tonight Martha Lang, their captain, will regret her decision to drop from the afternoon singles Kelli Kuehne, the extremely competitive US women's amateur champion, who played so well and putted so doggedly in winning her morning foursome with Ellen Port.

This was not on the grounds of tiredness because Kuehne is only 18. Nor was it because of a foot injury that she has had for some months because she played in golf shoes without effect yesterday morning and was out supporting in the afternoon. "I was stood down," Kuehne said. "I've got a long day ahead of me."

In all three morning matches, the 17th green was the scene of high drama and low skill. It is 20 feet above the fairway and very shallow. Anything less than a well-struck shot at the flag will not remain on the putting surface, which falls away at the back as well as the front. A bunker at the foot of the bank gathers the short shot.

This was by no means the only scene of poor play, however. The morning's foursomes was particularly lacklustre. The three matches yielded only two birdies from three matches and both those came from Alison Rose and Lisa Dermott as they beat Marla Jensen and Brenda Corrie-Kuehne.

This was puzzling on slow greens on a day that could

JOHN HOPKINS



Golf Correspondent

scarcely have been bettered for golf. Perhaps it was Curtis Cup nerves that caused Thompson and Kuehne to miss from less than two feet on the first. Hall to miss from the same distance on the 11th, and combined with Educate to three-putt the 16th. Moodie and McKay to three-putt the 17th, and then, after lunch, Stupple and Corrie-Kuehne both to three-putt the 11th.

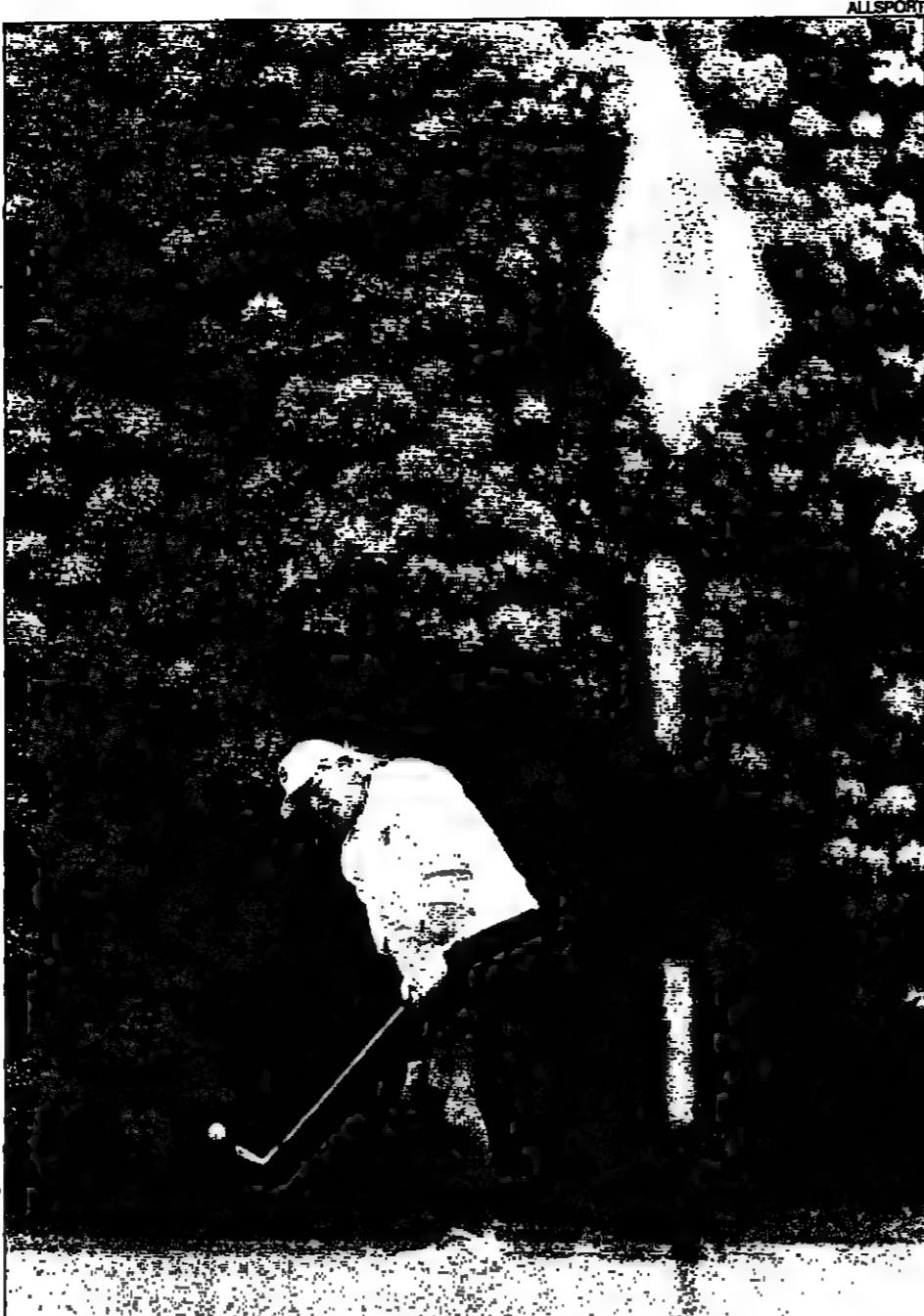
Stupple and Rose, two debutantes, won their singles well. Stupple, 22, had one of those afternoons when her wedge produced all the magic required of it. "Every time I used it I seemed to hit my ball to four feet," she said, typically finishing off Keller Booth by pitching to two feet and holing for victory on the 16th.

Rose, the bank clerk from Stirling, paid a visit to John Chillas, her coach, before travelling to Killarney. "Believe in yourself," Chillas told his pupil. "You're as good as anybody and you can do it." Thus inspired, Rose combined with Dermott, the Wales champion, to win their morning foursomes and then brushed aside Corrie-Kuehne 5 & 4 in the singles.

She ended her first day of Curtis Cup play with two victories and highly excited — as much by her own play as by the competition. "I won't be turning pro. This is what I enjoy. I can't think pro golf is as good as this," Rose said.

DETAILS: GB & I names first: Four-somes: J Hall & L Educate lost to E Port & K Kuehne 1 and 1; A Rose and L Dermott won to K Stupple and C Corrie-Kuehne 5 and 4; J Moodie and M McKay halved with N Thompson & Kellie Booth 1½-1½. Singles: T Stupple and C Corrie-Kuehne 5 & 4; E Port and J Hall lost to E Lebrun Ingram 4 and 2; K Stupple to J Booth 3 and 2; E Pacifica halved with Corrie-Kuehne 1½-1½; Kellie Booth to M McKay 1½-1½; Lisa Dermott to K Kuehne 4 and 3; Alison Rose and Brenda Corrie-Kuehne 5 & 4.

This was puzzling on slow greens on a day that could



Mhairi McKay, of Great Britain and Ireland, chips onto the 3rd green yesterday

Two defeats for aggressive Hall and it all ends in tears

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN KILLARNEY

HOWEVER hard it may be at the bottom, Julie Hall, one of the best amateurs of her generation, showed yesterday that it is appallingly tough on the nerves at the top. Two defeats on the opening day of her fifth and last Curtis Cup meant that it was more a case of frizzle-frazzle than the razza-dazzle of a glorious exit.

Hall, like most champions, has always been intense in her approach, and even the designer shades that are now de rigueur for golfers could not hide her tears after defeat by Sarah Lebrun Ingram. Those asking why she should retire at 29, at her peak, probably had their answer. Ten years at the top have taken their toll. Hall, with not much more to prove, has little left to give and it is time for the youngsters to go for glory and suffer the tensions.

Lauren Davies, of Great Britain, gave warning that she intends to hold on to her Evian Masters title when she recorded a course record of 65 in the third round in France yesterday. It left Davies at ten under par on 206, two clear of Carin Hj Koch of Sweden.

started with three bogeys, three-putting twice, to find herself one down against Ingram.

Ingram was still one up at the 14th, the hole that she saw as the key to the match, but her drive was too far right. To

reach the elevated green, Ingram had to keep the ball low under the branches of a tree, clear a cavernous bunker and stop the ball quickly. She opted for a running shot with a five-iron, which caught the edge of the bunker.

Hall's hallmark has always been her aggressive approach and it proved her undoing. She flew the green with her second shot and the ball ended unplayable in a bush. Ingram, with one foot in the bunker and one out, was aware of the same bush, but played a beautiful sand shot safely onto the green. Hall, having taken a drop, then flew the green again and, after a weak bunker shot, conceded. She lost the next two holes, flying the green with her approach each time, while Ingram, safely on, made sure that there was no way back.

The most remarkable round was produced by Pierre Fulke, a Swede, who had ten birdies in a 62 that broke the course record. Nor unnaturally, he was still wearing an incredulous smile hours later.

Results, page 52
Corporate golf fixtures
will appear on Monday

ROWING

Thames hosts feast of old and new regattas

THE old and the new combine this weekend to produce a significant Thames rowing weekend, with Marlow Regatta being staged today and Henley Women's Regatta today and tomorrow (Mike Rosewell writes).

The Marlow Senior I Eights entry includes Yale University and Princeton University, from the United States, and entered in the Temple Cup at Henley. They will learn something of the standard to expect as Eton's first eight and Bristol University, two of the better British Temple Cup entries, are in the Marlow line-up.

None of the overseas crews, already in England for Henley, has entered the Marlow Open Eights, however, where eight of the nine crews are

EQUESTRIANISM

Law courts success with fine final run

LESLIE LAW, riding New Flavour, underlined his form for Atlanta when he won comfortably the final pre-Olympic run for the Great Britain three-day event squad held in the tranquil setting of Hartpury College in Gloucestershire yesterday (Jenny MacArthur writes).

In a heartening return for the selectors, two other key members of the Olympic team, Ian Stark on Stanwick Ghost, and Mary King, on King William, finished second and third after faultless rounds over the well-rotivated cross-country course and ten and five faults, respectively, in the showjumping.

The other members of the eight-strong Olympic squad

competing — Gary Parsonage, on Magic Rogue, Chris Hunnable, on Mr Bootle, and Charlotte Baile, on The Cool Customer — were all clear across country, but in slower times. The two absences were Karen Dixon, who is still recovering from a cracked shoulder blade, and William Fox-Pitt, who competes in the Scania Milton Keynes Horse Trials this weekend.

Law, 31, who lives a stone's throw from Hartpury, was delighted at the way that New Flavour, owned by Nicola Coe, took on the fences. The 11-year-old gelding, who earned his Olympic place after finishing fourth at Badminton last month, was foot-perfect.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

Today

CRICKET

Second Combi Test match
11.0, third day of five, 90 overs minimum
LORD'S: England v India

Britannic Assurance county championship

11.0, third day of four, 104 overs minimum

DERBY: Derbyshire v Middlesex

STOCKTON: Durham v Surrey

TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Gloucestershire

HOVE: Sussex v Glamorgan

EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Kent

BRADFORD: Yorkshire v Leicestershire

11.0, first day of four, 90 overs minimum

BATH: Somerset v Worcestershire

University match

11.30, second day of three

FENNERS: Cambridge University v Essex

RUGBY UNION

International matches

Australia v Wales

(In Sydney, 11.0am)

New Zealand v Scotland

(In Auckland, 3.30pm)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Super League

Leeds v Castleford Tigers (6.0)

Pans Sam-German v Warrington (7.0)

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Women's British championships

and internationals (Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, 11.0, 12.0, 13.0)

Durham (11.0, 12.0, 13.0)

Nottinghamshire v Lincolnshire (at Nottingham HQ)

Worcestershire v Northamptonshire (at Northampton Town)

Cambridgeshire v Bedfordshire (at Chesterton)

Leicestershire v Norfolk (at New Louth)

Hampshire v Buckinghamshire (at Yarnton)

Warwickshire v Shropshire (at Croydon)

Sussex v Oxfordshire (at Worthing Pavilion)

Somerset v Devon (at Clevedon)

Wiltshire v Gloucestershire (at Cheltenham)

Northamptonshire v Warwickshire (at Northampton)

TRAVEL: Gloucester v Gloucestershire (at Gloucester)

BATH: Somerset v Worcestershire (at Bath)

Worcestershire v Gloucestershire (at Gloucester)

OTHER SPORT

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: World Bowls

Scottish Claymores v Frankfurt (at Murrayfield, 6.0)

PC Llanelli v Llanelli (at Llanelli)

M E Trescotwick bowlers v Newbury (at Trescotwick, 6.0)

Derbyshire v Derbyshire (at Derby, 6.0)

WORCESTERSHIRE: Worcester v Gloucestershire (at Worcester)

OTHER SPORT

MOTOR SPORT: Formula Three championships (at Donington Park)

SPEDWAY: Conference League

Leamington (1.0, 2.0, 3.0)

Lincolnshire (1.0, 2.0, 3.0)

Derbyshire (1.0, 2.0, 3.0)

Worcestershire (1.0, 2.0, 3.0)

OTHER SPORT

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: World Bowls

Scottish Claymores v Frankfurt (at Murrayfield, 6.0)

PC Llanelli v Llanelli (at Llanelli)

M E Trescotwick bowlers v Newbury (at Trescotwick, 6.0)

Derbyshire v Derbyshire (at Derby, 6.0)

WORCESTERSHIRE: Worcester v Gloucestershire (at Worcester)

OTHER SPORT

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: World Bowls

Scottish Claymores v Frankfurt (at Murrayfield, 6.0)

PC Llanelli v Llanelli (at Llanelli)

M E Trescotwick bowlers v Newbury (at Trescotwick, 6.0)

Derbyshire v Derbyshire (at Derby, 6.0)

WORCESTERSHIRE: Worcester v Gloucestershire (at Worcester)

OTHER SPORT

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: World Bowls

Scottish Claymores v Frankfurt (at Murrayfield, 6.0)

PC Llanelli v Llanelli (at Llanelli)

M E Trescotwick bowlers v Newbury (at Trescotwick, 6.0)

Derbyshire v Derbyshire (at Derby, 6.0)

WORCESTERSHIRE: Worcester v Gloucestershire (at Worcester)

OTHER SPORT

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: World Bowls

Scottish Claymores v Frankfurt (at Murrayfield, 6.0)

PC Llanelli v Llanelli (at Llanelli)

M E Trescotwick bowlers v Newbury (at Trescotwick, 6.0)

Derbyshire v Derbyshire (at Derby, 6.0)

WORCESTERSHIRE: Worcester v Gloucestershire (at Worcester)

OTHER SPORT

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: World Bowls

Scottish Claymores v Frankfurt (at Murrayfield, 6.0)

PC Llanelli v Llanelli (at Llanelli)

CRICKET: PRASAD WRAPS UP ENGLAND FIRST INNINGS DURING DAY OF ATTRITION WHICH LEAVES SECOND TEST EVENLY POISED

India's resistance stiffens after Russell's century

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

LORD'S second day of five: India, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 261 runs behind England

There was a time yesterday, with Jack Russell exulting in a century and India wondering where their next wicket could come from, when England seemed about to take complete command of this second Cornhill Test. But the longer the day continued, the less inclined the Indians became to submit meekly once again. With Sachin Tendulkar at the wicket, all things remain possible.

England were bowled out for 344, having lost their last four wickets for 18 in a contrary flurry of strokes. India's rebuilt batting suffered an early blow and then re-trenched stoically. It was a day on which the game moved only slowly, runs coming at barely two per over, and the overall picture was no clearer at close of play than at the start.

Modern Test cricket is played at a frenetic pace. Few days are as attritional and

positional as this and many of the capacity crowd seemed unsure of its merits. From tea-time to stumps, the lawns behind the pavilion remained full, cakes giving way to cocktails while the cricket proceeded, unseen, at its leisurely pace. Only when Tendulkar emerged did interest perk up.

For England, and especially for Graham Thorpe, the day had a disappointing start.

Thorpe makes too few centuries and here was as good a chance as he will get to improve his ratio. He all but ran himself out without facing a ball, then struck the next ball imperiously for four.

This was a stroke to settle the nerves but but in the next over from Javagal Srinath, India's third with the new ball, he was undone by additional bounce and could only deflect the ball down into his stumps. If this was no more than Srinath deserved for his perseverance, it was rather less than Thorpe deserved for an innings of poise and precision.

Russell now needed to assume the principal role — not

that he had been subservient during the sixth-wicket stand of 136. Rather, he had batted from the outset with the positive intent that he consciously banished during his strokeless and painful night in the opening Test. Russell learned from that failure the folly of reverting to introspection and, here, to the delight of an ardent crowd, he was a different player.

He can be unwatchable at times but, when he leaves his eccentricities in the dressing-room and adopts the attitude that he will go out to hit the ball, he is a capable and endearing batsman. His footwork here was nimble and active and there were times when he made two, even three movements down the pitch to drive the seavers.

Russell's century came with a cut for two to third man and he reacted with unforced euphoria, leaping and punching the air, flourishing his bat to every part of the ground and embracing his partner, Chris Lewis. The crowd stood and roared their approval, for Russell is not only as faddish and fidgety as Thursday's hero, Dickie Bird, he is also every bit as popular.

His only previous century for England was made in his fifth Test at Old Trafford against the 1989 Australians. His average, however, is now pushing 30 and this was far from being the first time that he has made runs with England in dire need.

Batting was not remotely as hazardous as it had been on Thursday but Srinath, in particular, still commanded constant respect. He is a bowler of deceptive speed, capable of generating disturbing lift from a good length, and he beat Russell's outside edge several times as, perversely, the wicketkeeper dropped the tempo of his barting. Having reached his century in less than four hours, he spent more than two hours adding another 24, operating entirely in singles either side of lunch.

Prasad had bowled with great heart and skill for a day and a half but he did not need to work very hard for these sudden riches. Lewis was well caught behind, following a ball he might earlier have left alone, and both Dominic Cork and Peter Martin fell to expansive strokes. Russell, in danger of being abandoned, picked the wrong ball to assault and sliced a catch to mid-off.

When the inevitable Cork



Russell celebrates his second century for England with a leap and a punch at Lord's

SCOREBOARD FROM LORD'S	
India won toss	
ENGLAND: First Innings	
*M A Atherton lbw b Srinath	0
(Srinath, 5 balls)	
A J Stewart lbw b Srinath	20
(Srinath, 5 balls; 3 overs)	
N Hussain c Rathore b Ganguly	36
(170mn, 110 balls, 5 fours)	
G P Thorpe c Srinath b Ganguly	89
(22mn, 10 balls, 10 fours)	
G A Hick c Srinath b Ganguly	1
(10mn, 9 balls)	
R C Irani lbw b Srinath	1
(10mn, 1 ball)	
*R C Russell c Tendulkar b Prasad	124
(372mn, 261 balls, 13 fours)	
C C Lewis c Mongia b Prasad	31
(180mn, 116 balls, 3 fours)	
D G Martin c Srinath b Prasad	0
(23mn, 26 balls)	
P J Martin c Tendulkar b Prasad	0
(10mn, 1 ball)	
A D Mutwill not out	0
(6mn, 3 balls)	
Extras (b 15 lb 11, nb 14)	38
Total (190.3 overs, 665min)	444
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0 (Stewart 0), 2-67 (Hussain 34), 3-102 (Thorpe 25), 4-102 (Irani 1), 5-121 (Russell 121), 6-137 (Prasad 121), 7-142 (Lewis 111), 8-157 (Russell 121), 9-343 (Russell 121).	
BOWLING: Srinath 33-78-3 (nb 4, 10 fours, 7-51, 7-51, 8-50, 8-51, 9-18, 10 fours, 11-52, 12-52); Mongia 10-52 (nb 4, 10 fours, 11-52); Ganguly 10-52 (nb 8, 10 fours, 11-52, 12-52); Irani 10-52 (nb 8, 10 fours, 11-52, 12-52); Mumba 10-52 (nb 8, 10 fours, 11-52, 12-52).	
Umpires: H D Bird and D B Hay (Australia); Third umpire: S W A. (West Indies); Referee: D. (Trent Bridge); July 3 to 9	
RESULTS: First Test, (Edgbaston): England won by eight wickets. Test to come: Third (Trent Bridge); July 8 to 9	
Compiled by Bill Frindall	

Warwickshire found out in own back yard

By IVO TENNANT

EDGBASTON (second day of four): Warwickshire, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, require 238 runs to beat Kent

The county champions will do markedly well to avoid a second successive defeat today. Needing 286 to beat Kent on a pitch that is not up to the standard expected of a Test ground, Warwickshire lost two wickets and had another batsman, Andy Moles, ensconced in the physiotherapist's room after being hit on a thumb. In addition, the United Cricket Board of South Africa asked them — politely but firmly — not to overbowl

Pollock resorted to a shorter run at times yesterday, finishing with two wickets. Once again, Brown was Warwickshire's most effective bowler, taking six wickets for the first time after finishing with five the previous day. The pitch, which will not be reported by the umpires but which will be given a low marking, gave him considerable assistance. Yet he deserved his wickets.

It's original appearance had persuaded Hampshire to

winter that Shaun would not be overbowled and I would like Warwickshire to keep to that. I am sure Shaun will be cutting down on his over in future."

Amis, having spoken to Bacher, said he would be talking to Reeve and Phil Neale, the director of coaching, about "getting the balance right". Pollock is bowling, on average 3½ more overs an innings than Allan Donald did for Warwickshire last season. "We do not want to wear Shaun out," Amis emphasised. "We also feel he has been bowling too short of a length and he is working with Allan to correct that."

Pollock resorted to a shorter run at times yesterday, finishing with two wickets. Once again, Brown was Warwickshire's most effective bowler, taking six wickets for the first time after finishing with five the previous day. The pitch, which will not be reported by the umpires but which will be given a low marking, gave him considerable assistance. Yet he deserved his wickets.

Brown brought one in that bowled Ward and gained sufficient movement to have Cowdrey, Headley and Preston caught behind or in the slips. For the second day running, he had Eulham held on the third-man boundary. Hooper was enticed into swinging a short ball to long leg. All the while, Brown had to make do without Munton, who had a sore back, at the other end.

This feat was exceeded only by Eulham, who moved the ball away from the bat, varying his pace as intelligently as ever, and finished with eight for 36. Having taken three first-innings wickets overnight, he had Brown caught at second slip — his figures were four for three at this stage — then plucked out Penney's stump and swiftly accounted for the tail.

He could yet play for England in Test cricket as well as in one-day internationals, in which he made his first appearances last month.

Eulham: eight wickets

Shaun Pollock, their overseas signing.

Barling was no bundle of laughs. Two bowlers, Eulham and Brown, returned career-best figures on a day when only Long made a half-century. When Warwickshire went in a second time, McCague swiftly had Smith taken in the slips and bowled Khan. Kent, should they win, will go to the top of the championship table today.

Pollock has now bowled 269 overs in seven championship matches this season, and that is too many for the liking of Ali Bacher, managing director of the United Cricket Board. "I shall be talking to Dennis Amis about this," he told *The Times*. "I was given an assurance by Dermot Reeve last

Northamptonshire routed by Stephenson

By PAT GIBSON

BASINGSTOKE (third day of four): Hampshire (24pts) beat Northamptonshire (4) by an innings and 72 runs

JOHN STEPHENSON, the Hampshire captain, exchanged a few sharp words with the groundsmen when he first saw how much grass had been taken off the May's Bounty pitch, but he was not complaining too loudly last night after his side had completed only its second championship victory of the season.

Despite the loss of more than half of the second day to rain, the match was all over soon after tea on the third and questions are sure to be asked at Lord's about why a pitch that was supposed to last four days had deteriorated so rapidly.

Its original appearance had persuaded Hampshire to

leave out a seamer in order to play two spinners, but it did so much for the quicker bowlers that Udal was not asked to bowl until the fortieth over of Northamptonshire's second innings and Maru did not get a chance to turn his arm over at all.

Northamptonshire had already been reduced to 58 for six in their first innings when they resumed yesterday needing a further 187 to avoid the follow-on and, although they managed to double their score, they were still batting again before luncheon.

That they held up Hampshire for so long was because Curran, dropped in the guilty on one, chose attack as the best means of defence in the uneven, two-paced conditions. He reached 50 off 67 balls, hitting James over long-off for six and cracking eight fours before he became one of five victims for the aforementioned

Stephenson at a personal cost of 27. Northamptonshire needed 247 to avoid an innings defeat and they could not have made a worse start. Montogomery could not survive Connor's opening over for the second time in the match and bagged

a pair when he was brilliantly caught by Keach at third slip. Bailey, the captain, opted for Curran's methods and left in some embarrassment when he tried to bat over the top and failed to clear Stephenson at mid-off, and Lye went for a duck when he pushed forward to Bovill and was caught behind.

Stephenson's bounce accounted for Warren, caught at slip, and Capel's attempt to hit his way out of trouble resulted in a catch to second slip of James. He had struck a couple of damaging blows, the most serious of which hit Laney at short leg on the larynx and sent the youngster to hospital for a check-up.

It was left to Curran once more to put a brave face on Northamptonshire's plight and he did his best by going within one run of his second half-century before James had him leg-before. Penberthy

supported him best with a frantic 30, but Connor trapped him leg-before. Udal eventually got into the act by having Roberts caught off bat and pad, and Stephenson fittingly finished things off by having Taylor caught at second slip.

All of which left Northamptonshire with the remarkable record of 13 wins in 13 one-day games this season but four defeats in seven championship matches without a victory.

Bailey was right to point out that losing the toss on what he condemned as "a club wicket" had been decisive, but he was honest enough to admit that his players had not applied themselves as well as they should have done.

That did not just apply to the batsmen. The bowlers, too, had much to answer for. Well as Robin Smith played for his 179, they should never have allowed Hampshire to make 394 on such a pitch.

Whitaker is double trouble for Yorkshire

YORKSHIRE, set the small matter of 532 to avoid the follow-on against Leicestershire at Bradford, could bat for all of the third day and still not reach their target (Geoffrey Wheeler writes).

Leicestershire did not declare until they had reached 681 for seven — the highest total recorded against Yorkshire and only 20 short of the Leicestershire county record — with James Whitaker scoring 218, including two sixes and 26 fours. His was the second double century of the innings — Vince Wells having hit 200 on the first day — the first double double in county cricket since 1993, when Glamorgan's Vivian Richards and Adrian Dale passed 200 against Middlesex, and finished on the losing side.

The Yorkshire openers, Martin Moxon and Michael Vaughan, both failed to score, but Michael Bevan took up the challenge and was 52 not out when the championship leaders closed at 42 for four.

Mark Butcher, the Surrey opening batsman, many believe will emulate his father, Alan, by winning an England cap, scored 160 against Durham at Stockton.

It was his third century in his past four innings and helped Surrey to overhaul Durham's 377 for the loss of four wickets. Despite a sluggish pitch, Butcher needed only 125 balls for his hundred and hit 29 fours. Darren Bicknell, completely overshadowed by him in an opening partnership of 245, found the going so tough that his 106 occupied over 6½ hours.

Two young pace bowlers took the individual honours at Derby and Hove. Lancashire-born Andrew Harris, who will be 25 next week, finished with six for 43 as Middlesex were bowled out for 165 by Derbyshire and after the blank first day in the match between Sussex and Glamorgan, Jason Lewry, the home county's promising left-arm, made up for lost time by returning six for 44 Glamorgan were dismissed for 133. A brisk 78 by Alan Wells then took Sussex into the lead.

leaving the bowlers dictate, was impressive.

Lee began his career as a fast bowler but his bowling is now his "weak link". Nevertheless, as he showed on Thursday, he is capable of taking useful wickets and when Waugh retires Australia should have a ready-made replacement. He models himself on Waugh. Like Waugh, he has a liking for eye-catching averages in England: in nine championship innings he has scored two centuries and five half-centuries, and averages 113.16.

Neither he nor Turner gave a chance and Worcester, having raised their hopes by claiming the wickets of Trescothick, Holloway and Hayhurst before lunch, were given a fruitless and frustrating afternoon.

They bowled with less discipline than in the first innings on a pitch which was more benign. Ellingworth, so successful earlier, was forced to concede bowling over the wicket and down the leg-side, and helped to delay the declaration until an hour from stumps.

Lee faced 277 balls and struck 25 fours and a six. Turner could not rival his partner's strokeplay but nevertheless played a vital role. He struck 14 fours and one six in completing the fourth century of his career. It was not a bad day for West Country wicketkeepers.

TRENT BRIDGE (second day of four): Gloucestershire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, need 238 runs to avoid an innings defeat against Nottinghamshire

A DAY that began badly for Gloucestershire, with the return home of Richard Davies, because of a family bereavement, became steadily worse as time went by. First, Nottinghamshire added a further 128 runs for their last five wickets. Chris Cairns moving on to his first century of the season. Then, Gloucestershire, facing a total of 460, batted for the most part as though they were millionaires on an afternoon outing rather than a struggling side with their backs to the wall.

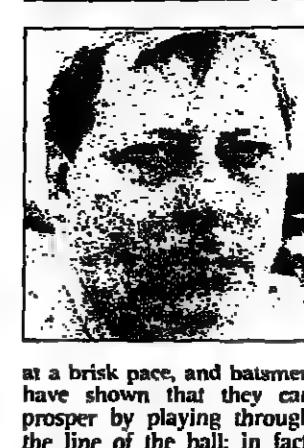
Not until Mike Smith displayed inherent Yorkshire graft and grit in a rear-guard action which brought him a career-best undefeated 55, did the prodigal nature of their batting end and common sense take over. By then, though, chances of saving the follow-on had disappeared. Trent Bridge was not exactly abuzz with talk of the Glorious Gloucestershire.

More to the point, however, was the prospect of Nottinghamshire winning their first county championship match in 13 attempts. Certainly, they have made all the running in this match so far and yesterday saw their New Zealand all-rounder, Chris Cairns, follow on 270 behind.

Both Bates and Aford achieved some runs, but not enough to deter anyone determined to stay there. By the time Smith entered the fray to demonstrate just that, Walker had participated in the fall of six of the first seven wickets, as Gloucestershire followed on 270 behind.

Kumble finds confidence running thin

MICHAEL HENDERSON



This Test series is running along well-established lines in most respects, confirming what people already knew about the key India players. Tendulkar gave a marvellous exhibition of batting at Edgbaston, and may provide further delight today. Srinath has bowled splendidly, though not always luckily. Prasad has shown promise and there is one hopes, a decent innings in Azharuddin.

As for the bowler who was thought to be India's matchwinner, a penny for his thoughts. Anil Kumble took 105 wickets for Northamptonshire last year at 20 runs apiece. So far this summer, he has taken one England wicket, the formidable Min Patel, at a cost of 146 runs. Allowing for the undeniable fact that he has bowled on pitches that have helped the men who seam and swing the ball, Kumble has bowled poorly.

EURO 96

DAILY TEAM-BY-TEAM GUIDE



ENGLAND

The lingering bitterness that the England players feel about their treatment by the media over their behaviour on the Caithay Pacific flight home from Hong Kong and in the aftermath of their opening draw with Switzerland two weeks ago is still coming to the fore at Bisham Abbey on a regular basis.

This week Paul Gascoigne told officials: "Even if I score a hat-trick in the final, I'm never talking to those ****s again." On Wednesday, Teddy Sheringham said that there were plenty of highs and lows in football and "most of the lows are caused by you guys". Yesterday, it was the turn of Alan Shearer. "I suppose I am relieved about all those goals I'm scoring," he said. "It might get you lot off my back for a few days."

Sheringham, an intelligent man just as he is an intelligent footballer, is nevertheless one of the many dinosaurs in football when it comes to public relations. Amid the euphoria of England's win over Holland on Tuesday night, he was ushered in front of a microphone with Shearer. "I hope you all realise that we have not been to the changing-rooms yet," Sheringham said.

The exceptions to this attitude are rare but appreciated. Jamie Redknapp is amiable and bright. David Seaman is helpful and full of insight. David Platt courteous and straightforward. Tony Adams is blunt. Gary Neville just about takes the prize for approachability and lack of affection, but even he has his worries. "He's petrified of you lot," Adams said.

CAUTIONS: Ince (2), Adams, G Neville, Shearer, Sheringham, Southgate



GERMANY

There is a famous story of the late Bill Shankly being bored on holiday in Cyprus and getting up a team to play the waiters. To Shankly's great satisfaction, they won. Alex Ferguson will have less happy memories of the day when he played for Mottram Hall's staff team against the German FA team. The German team did not include their coaches, although Karl-Heinz Rummenigge played, and scored the final goal in a 6-1 victory. To add to Ferguson's discomfort, Mottram Hall were wearing Manchester United shirts.

Mehmet Scholl, the team joke, had been one of only two players not to have taken part so far, but, with worries about Hässler, he might be involved tomorrow. Yesterday, he and the injured Helmer were the two players who accompanied Klinsmann to the press conference. Inevitably, he was asked about his frustrations and unhappiness at not playing. Finally, he conceded that he had talked to Berti Vogts about his position.

"He told me my time will come," he said, adding wryly: "the fact that I'm here could be an indication that it has come, and my three weeks as the man who takes care of team morale will be over and I will become an active footballer."

Injured players apart, the team's recovery after games has been a concern to their medical staff and, after having Thursday and yesterday morning off, they want to Macclesfield yesterday (teatime for their last session there).

CAUTIONS: Babbel (2), Reuter, Hässler, Möller, Kuntz, Ziegler, Brehm

DISMISSAL: Strunz



FRANCE

Bring on the gendarmes. The British police may be the best in the world, but not as far as the France squad is concerned. Plans to cut down on tiresome travel for Aimé Jacquet's players went well yesterday, until they were delivered into the apparently safe hands of Her Majesty's Constabulary.

France flew from Newcastle to their new hotel in Bolton to avoid a lengthy coach journey. Everything went according to plan, leaving only a 20-minute bus ride from the hotel to the Anfield pitch where they will play Holland today. Two hours later and the police outrider, a routefinding master, had somehow guided them into the middle of the Pennine mountain range, not a few miles away from Liverpool. Jacquet was less than amused.

One France player who may be asking an English policeman for directions in the near future is Frank Leboeuf, the central defender. He is the subject of a £2.5 million bid from Chelsea, and he is attracted by the idea. "I would like to play in England, I am a very good friend of David Ginola, and he has said very many good things [about Premiership football]," he said.

French clubs are also vying for Leboeuf's signature. Marseilles have expressed an interest in the Strasbourg player, but a spokesman for the newly-promoted club said yesterday: "We understand that Leboeuf would rather play alongside Guilti and Vialli." No surprise there.

CAUTIONS: di Meo, Blanc, Karembeu, Djorkaeff, Desailly, Dugarry

DISMISSAL: Strunz



PORTUGAL

Portugal have one of the smallest press corps at the championships — and one of the most polite, which certainly does nothing for the comparison to Brazil. Their politeness does not seem to be rewarding. They are not allowed to quote anything that António Oliveira, the coach, says to them outside the official press conferences and, unlike the Germans, who regularly send three players to press conferences, the players rarely attend.

Fernando Couto followed the example of Vitor Baia, his captain, and declined a request for an interview from some English journalists this week, leaving Jorge Cadete to confide to a couple of Scottish journalists that Couto "probably hadn't made his mind up" about joining Rangers.

As well as a small press corps, Portugal may have the smallest support among the quarter-finalists, unless there is a late run on tickets for the match with the Czech Republic at Villa Park tomorrow. They were unable, yesterday, to confirm the number of tickets that their supporters had bought, but, where Germany had advance orders for 4,500 of their 7,000 allocation, Portugal's advance sales were around 800, according to German officials. Perhaps that reflects national pessimism.

The players' bonuses, though, are not tied to ticket sales, but to results. They will get £54,000 (£35,000) each if they reach the semi-finals; a figure that will double if they get to the final itself.

CAUTIONS: Paulinho Santos (2), Oceano, Sa Pinto, João Pinto, Paulo Sousa, Figo, Tavares

DM



SPAIN

This information service does not want to take any undue credit, but we did warn you about Javier Clemente. The Spain coach is not regarded for his subtlety or sensitivity of comment, as noted when he called Stoichkov a cheat, and lambasted his own players for being wimpish. Well, he has gone one step further before the game against England.

Speaking in El Mundo, he suggested that his side would be up against alarming odds at Wembley today. Or, in the less delicate way he put it: "There will be 2,000 of us against 70,000 drunks." Perhaps wisely, Clemente withdrew the comment when confronted by howling English journalists, but still remained true to his cantankerous self.

"If England win the tournament in their own stadium, then history will show they have not achieved much," he said, when asked to analyse the host nation's performances so far. Julio Salinas, the Spain forward, also added to the stimulating political debate between the nations. "If they beat us, then they should give us Gibraltar back," he said. Clemente also had a new reason for why there will be only 2,000 apparently sober Spanish supporters at the stadium. "We had 15,000 for the game against France, but, in Spain today, it is the deadline for paying rent, so maybe they can't afford it," he said. Clemente is likely to bring back Camacho, with Pizzi riving the more mobile, but less favoured, Kiko, for the vital forward position.

CAUTIONS: Caminero, Sergi, Amor, Abuelo, Luis Enrique, Amavisca, Otero, Kiko, Nedal

DISMISSAL: Pizzi



CROATIA

Many observers immediately questioned the wisdom of Miroslav Blazevic, the Croatia coach, when he stated, before the final group matches, that he would like his side to play against Germany, the Euro 96 favourites, in the quarter-finals. Even Otto Baric, his assistant, begged to differ.

Blazevic felt that the cold, calculating approach of the Germans would suit his players' more flamboyant, devil-may-care style and that Berti Vogts, his counterpart, would find it difficult to counter tactically the fluent and innovative talents of Boban, Prosvetec, Suker and Bokic.

For Blazevic, 61, it was an observation also borne of sentimentality, of a long-standing admiration for Germany's national teams past and present. Tomorrow, at Old Trafford, he finally gets his wish.

"I'm both pleased and proud to be playing them," Blazevic said yesterday. "Since I was a little boy, I have always followed their progress. It is the team I identified with, I always looked upon them as something special. Even when they played against the beautiful and romantic team of Hungary, who were so popular in the 1950s, I wanted Germany to do well. I have always dreamt of this moment."

History suggests that Blazevic's long wait may end in disappointment. The Germans have won all three previous meetings with Croatia, in the 1940s, and by convincing margins — 5-1 (twice) and 2-0. Win or lose tomorrow, though, Germany will have made an old man very happy.

CAUTIONS: Asanovic, Boban, Soldo, Stanic, Prosvetec, Vlasic, Pamic, Jarni, Pavicic

RK



HOLLAND

Holland, who will try to stay apparently invincible France at Anfield this evening, have retained their sense of humor. Just by yesterday, Richard Witschge, the former Bordeaux midfield player, had concocted a novel excuse for the haunting 4-1 collapse against England at Wembley four ago.

"It is simple," he said. "We always wanted to play in Liverpool and we have got our wish. When we beat Ireland in the play-off to reach the finals, it was at Anfield. We like the place, it is a nice stadium to play at. We want to go back, that is why we lost to England."

His smile betrayed any hint of plausibility... but it was then time to get serious. "Every team is entitled to have a bad day and, for us, it was Tuesday," he said. "Perhaps it is the best thing that could have happened. It will at least keep our feet on the ground."

Witschge, who returns to Ajax after the tournament, revealed that the players had subsequently held a meeting to attempt to discover the real reason behind such an abject display. Though he declined to disclose any details, Dennis Bergkamp, the Arsenal striker, was slightly more forthcoming.

"Some people have said that we will be better against the French because our problems will inspire us," he said, "but we had problems before the England game and we didn't play too well against them, did we? At least, now, I think our noses are pointing in the same direction." Come tonight, possibly straight back to Amsterdam.

CAUTIONS: Witschge, Taunent, Seedorf, Winter, Bind, Bergkamp, RK



CZECH REPUBLIC

They are quick off the mark, these Czechs. Having naively decided that they could meet the media at midnight after their draw with Russia — and then realising that the ensuing party atmosphere did not provide the ideal backdrop to give quotes — they have now opted to invite the press over at the midnight hour only if they lose their quarter-final against Portugal. Astute planning, but how astute? Surely, arranging a press conference as early as 10am on the Monday morning after the night before, should they win, is optimistic?

Could it be, for example, that the players watched the recording of the game between Portugal and Croatia only yesterday because it took them that long to come back down to earth? (Desan Uhrin, the coach, has watched the recording three times already, just in case any of his players forget the plot.)

The Czech media seemed suspiciously interested yesterday in the team's ability to cope with a penalty shoot-out. Uhrin was asked to name seven players likely to take spot-kicks. He came up with Berger, Kuka and Kubic and then paused — for quite some time.

This was worrying. A few minutes earlier, Uhrin had confidently stressed that he had many players capable of taking penalties and a shoot-out would not be a problem. Nervous Czech reporters made some helpful suggestions and, after prompting, Uhrin added Poborsky and Kadlec to the list.

CAUTIONS: Nedved (2), Kadlec (2), Drušák, Bejbí, Kuka, Suchopárek, Nemec

AR

QUARTER-FINALS

Today
England v Spain
(Wembley, 3.0) BBC1

Tomorrow
Germany v Croatia
(Old Trafford, 3.0) ITV

Today
France v Holland
(Anfield, 6.30) ITV

Tomorrow
Portugal v Czech Republic
(Villa Park, 6.30) BBC1

SEMI-FINAL

WEMBLEY

7.30

REPORTS: Oliver Holt, Peter Ball, Russell Kempson, Alyson Rudd and David Maddock

SEMI-FINAL

OLD TRAFFORD

4.0

WEMBLEY

Sun June 30 7.0 (BBC1 AND ITV)

HOW THE GROUPS FINISHED

GROUP A
England 1 Switzerland 1
(Shearer (23) pen) (Wembley, attendance 76,567)
Holland 3 1 1 1 3 4 4
(Villa Park, attendance 34,363)
Switzerland 0 Holland 2
(Cruyff (65) Bergkamp (78)) (Villa Park, attendance 36,800)
England 2 Scotland 0
(Shearer (53) Gascoigne (79)) (Wembley, attendance 76,564)
Scotland 1 Switzerland 0
(McCost (37)) (Villa Park, attendance 34,926)
England 4 Holland 1
(Shearer (23) pen, 57) (Sheringham (51, 62) Kluivert (78)) (Wembley, attendance 76,799)

GROUP B
Spain 1 Bulgaria 1
(Alfonso (73) Stoichkov (65 pen)) (Elland Road, attendance 26,006)
Romania 0 France 1
(Dugnny (24)) (St James' Park, attendance 26,323)
Bulgaria 3 1 1 1 3 4 4
(Stoichkov (3)) (St James' Park, attendance 19,107)
France 1 Spain 1
(Djorkaeff (48) Caminero (85)) (Elland Road, attendance 35,626)
France 3 Bulgaria 1
(Blanc (20) Panić (63) Loto (90) Stoichkov (69)) (St James' Park, attendance 26,976)
Romania 1 Spain 2
(Radučioiu (29) Manjarin (11) Amor (83)) (Elland Road, attendance 32,719)

GROUP C
Germany 3 2 1 0 5 0 7
(Ziegler (31)) (Old Trafford, attendance 57,300)
Czech Rep 3 1 1 1 5 6 4
(Casiraghi (5, 52) Tsymbalar (20)) (Anfield, attendance 35,120)
Italy 3 1 1 1 3 3 4
(Stoichkov (3)) (Anfield, attendance 53,740)
Russia 3 0 0 3 1 4 0
(Mostovoi (49) Tchirazte (54) Sucharek (6)) (Anfield, attendance 21,128)

GROUP D
Denmark 3 2 1 0 5 1 7
(Laudrup (21) Se Pinto (52)) (Hillsborough, attendance 34,993)
Turkey 0 Croatia 1
(Vlasic (35)) (City Ground, attendance 22,460)
Portugal 1 Turkey 0
(Couto (66)) (City Ground, attendance 22,670)
Croatia 3 Denmark 0
(Suker (53) pen, 90) (Boban (81)) (Hillsborough, attendance 33,671)
Portugal 0 Portugal 3
(Figo (4) Joao Pinto (33) Domingos (63)) (City Ground, attendance 20,494)
Turkey 0 Denmark 3
(Laudrup (50, 84) Nielsen (70)) (Hillsborough, attendance 28,951)

PREVIOUS WINNERS
1960: USSR
1964: Spain
1968: Italy
1972: West Germany
1976: Czechoslovakia
1980: West Germany
1984: France
1988: Holland
1992: Denmark

RUNNERS-UP
1960: Yugoslavia
1964: USSR
1968: Yugoslavia
1972: USSR
1976: West Germany
1980: Belgium
1984: Spain
1988: USSR
1992: Germany

LATEST SETTING
7-4: Germany
3-1: England
9-2: France
8-1: Holland
9-1: Portugal
12-1: Spain
14-1: Croatia
16-1: Czech Republic
12-0: Odds by Ladbrokes

LEADING SCORERS
4: A Shearer (England)
3: B Laudrup (Denmark)
H Stoichkov (Bulgaria)
2: P Casiraghi (Italy)
J Klinsmann (Germany)
E Sheringham (England)
D Suker (Croatia)

Graphics: Grahame Smith
David Hall

Will there be a German towel on the beach before June 30?

Mick McCarthy assesses the chances of Jürgen and co. live on MSN.

ms

The Microsoft Network

Chat with Mick McCarthy and Graeme Le Saux live on MSN after the quarter finals on Saturday. Just click on the MSN icon on your Microsoft Windows® 95 PC, you can try it FREE for a whole month with UNLIMITED internet access. Have a shot at MSN — The official Internet Software Provider of Euro '96.

Microsoft

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO TODAY?

THE TIMES SATURDAY JUNE 22 1996

THE TIMES

LYNN TRU

KICKING & SCREAMIN

A

Good

ing

the

right

day

of

on

in

Not

Holland

match

airship

Strain

straining

the

Four goals and I'm in heaven with England

LYNNE TRUSS



KICKING & SCREAMING

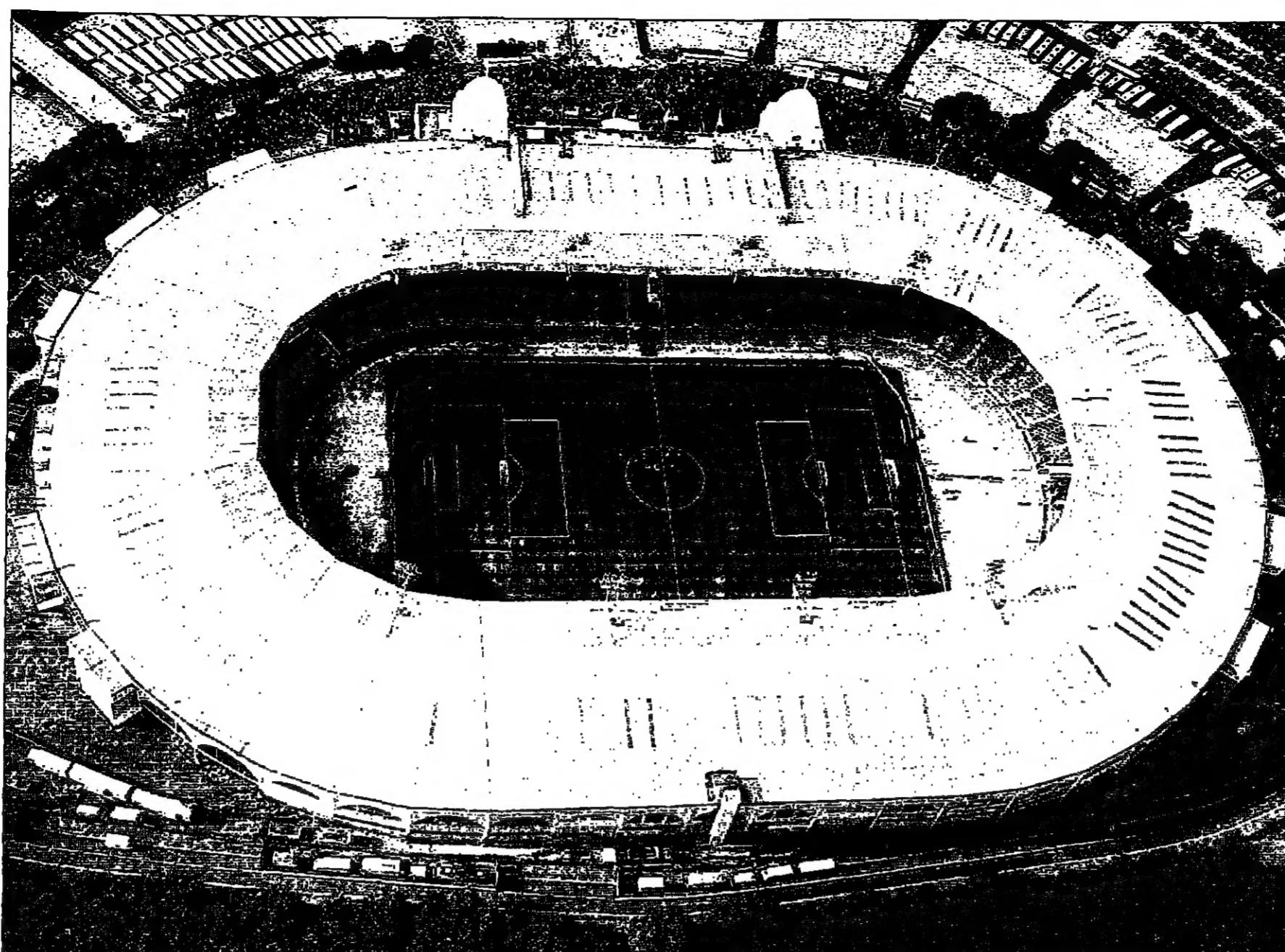
At two minutes past ten on Tuesday, my Euro 96 pager buzzed for the last time that night. Buzzzz. "Hello, my little friend," I said happily. "Do you have another message, perchance, on this night of famous victory?" I fished it out, kissed it and pressed its buttons. "It makes you proud to be British," informed me. "Coverage tomorrow of Group C/D finales. Goodnight!"

"Goodnight!" I replied, matching the exclamation marks. The pager's euphoria touched precisely the right chord, for it had been a day of great drama. In fact, at ten o'clock, I was still literally floating on air.

Not only had England beaten Holland 4-1, but I had seen the match leaning out of the Fuji airship, 1,000 feet above Wembley Stadium, snorting the cool wind, straining to hear crowd noise over the drone of engines and watching agape as, time after time, vertically beneath on the emerald grass, a white ball travelled smartly — and oh so neatly — slap-bang into the enemy net.

And now in the mist, the airship sank towards a field near Woking and I came back down to earth with the gentlest of bumps. Excellent.

How was I chosen for the privilege of travelling on this airship? I am proud to say that my feminine bladder played a part. Its gondola being only about 12 feet long, the airship has no bathroom facilities; male correspondents could not commit themselves to a six-hour flight. Ha, ha, ha. Ha. "What, me worry?" being by no means my personal motto, I was in this instance happy to report



Floating on air: this was how Wembley Stadium looked from 1,000 feet up in the Fuji airship on that night of famous victory for England

myself quite carefree; and was soon packing a picnic and humming *We're In This Together* (as a hymn to my excellent urinary system).

So it was all arranged. My friend, Susan, agreed to come. She said she would wear a straw hat and bring binoculars. I took the pager and some chocolate cake. The day was fine and sunny. At 4.30pm, many Germans in smart white Fuji uniforms shouldered

the nose-ropes of the 180-foot canopy and walked our airship through long, parched grass with a heart-stopping solemnity that required only trumpets and powdered wigs to complete the feeling of baroque stateliness. Then they let go of the ropes, we rose on air, our American pilot, Corky, gave us forward thrust and we were on our way to Wembley.

The first thing you learn about airship flight is that it's more like

sailing than flying. "Ready to rock and roll!" Corky said cheerfully on a previous flight — a fact I found hysterically funny until the gondola started to dip and rise, dip and rise. Lumme! "Move about if you like!" Corky called back to us, over the roar of propellers. "Open windows!" Susan and I beamed

pluckily in response and gave the thumbs-up, but remained grimly belted in our seats, feeling our stomachs knock against our ribs.

Croydon passed beneath us.

We could see Wembley from miles off, the stadium sucking people towards it like a bar magnet with 75,000 iron filings. At the height of 1,000 feet, it turns out that you can see every individual person, but not quite well enough to wave.

How wonderful was this going

to be, exactly? At this point, of course, nobody knew. England were probably going to lose and I was probably going to be sick. I ate more chocolate cake thoughtfully. But then the flags were brought out on the pitch and suddenly I could scarcely contain myself. I grabbed the photographer. "Flags!" I yelled, pointing. We opened the window and hung out to watch. And, from then on, it was simply magic.

Despite the noise, the incipient nausea and the disorientation brought about by relentless anti-clockwise circling ("which end are we? Which way are we going?"), the match was still amazing. "Penalty!" we yelled at each other, drumming our feet. "Score!" yelled Corky.

The pager (bless it) passed on the news a minute later, telling us who scored the goal. "Shearer!" we hymned, and drummed our feet again. Two weeks ago I had not heard of him. Now I want to have his babies. Meanwhile the players made breathtaking patterns, running back and forth endlessly like

I had not heard of Shearer two weeks ago. Now I want to have his babies'

marbles on a tray. Floodlights came on in the second half and our view got even better.

As the roar of the crowd filtered through our engines, I felt so overwhelmed that I was impelled to sing *Lift Up Your Hearts* for the first time since school. How could there possibly be four England goals?

But then, how could we possibly be watching from up here? As the score mounted, we had so much to disbelief that we didn't, in all honesty, know where to start. But when we returned to earth and it was all still true ("four-one!"), we felt happy, exhausted and strangely proud.

So now I am like the Ancient Mariner, telling the story to anyone who will listen. And the only after-effects — which are worth it — are a propensity to shout "free kick!" out of context, a habit of turning compulsively clockwise (to unwind) and a susceptibility to motor noise so exquisite that I jump in the air every time a car goes past or the fridge starts up.

Beautiful game scores on artistic impression

SIMON BARNES



On Saturday

LET US this week explore some of the vexed and contentious places where art and football meet. For a start, who said:

□ I particularly enjoy the French impressionists — Renoir, Cézanne and so on.

□ Where scoring goals was concerned, he was a Picasso.

□ Football fans are taking part in a work of art.

□ Before half-time I had to go and rest, so exhausted was I by the ups and downs of the game.

Answers are at the foot of this column, but, before you look, I offer you some of the copy from a single piece in a publication called *rate: the Art Magazine*, reviewing an exhibition of footballing art in Manchester. "Sky TV's coverage ... presents soccer as a kind of multi-artistry, gesamtkunstwerk extravaganza ... the crowd within panopticonic football stadia as instruments of mass social control or mobilisation ... the deconstructionist analysis of Alan Hansen, Andy Gray and ... Gary Lineker ... is as incisive, in its own way, as much art writing."

Good as that, eh? All the above was quoted in the programme for another exhibition of football art, this one called "England's Glory". It takes place at Gallery 27, in Cork Street, London, all next week. There are also some terrific pictures to look at and, if that is not enough incentive for a visit, there is a bar in the same street that serves the best pint of Guinness in London.

Keeping busy

Goalkeeper of the week is, not for the first time, Jorge Campos of Mexico. Last weekend Campos played two matches in the same day: an international, for Mexico against the United States, in the US Cup, and then, half an hour later, for his club, Los Angeles Galaxy, in a Major League Soccer game against Tampa Bay Mutiny. Both games were at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, which at least simplified things. Mexico drew the first match 2-2 enough to win the four-team competition. In the next Galaxy were 2-1 down at half-time and brought on a substitute goalie — but left Campos in the game as an out-field player. By rights, he should have scored, but Galaxy still pulled a goal back and went on to take the match by

winning the "shoot-out". No player in modern history has played an international and a league match within an hour of each other. Strangest of all, perhaps: 92,000 people watched the two games.

Legal eagle

Legal news: Diana J Nagy is suing the Berry Hill Country Club, in Rhode Island, United States, after her husband, Alexander Nagy Jr, died from falling out of a golf cart two years ago. She is also suing the driver of the cart. Alexander

Blow in this bag, Buddy!



Nagy III, and the manufacturer of the cart. A spokesman for the country club said: "The elder Nagy had been drinking and fell out of the cart." Mrs Nagy is suing on the grounds that the cart had no seatbelts, no sides, no doors, inadequate brakes and suspension. She is also suing the club for serving alcohol.

Tactical error

Everyone wants to jump on the bandwagon of footballing

success, or, for that matter, of footballing failure. In Italy, this latter matter has included the Mafia. The alleged multi-multi murderer, Tofo Rilina, *capo di tutti capi*, dictated a statement from prison to his lawyer, Giorgio Mazzefoli, about the Italy coach, Arrigo Sacchi: "Yesterday, Sacchi used suicidal tactics and made suicidal choices." Sacchi can take comfort — perhaps — from the fact that Rilina, known as *l'urto* or The Short One, is behind bars.

Barefaced bribe

Minor League baseball is a serious matter, at least for the players, but promoters face a constant battle to get people to watch the games, the concept of a second division not really being an aspect of the American *Zeigeist*. So it comes about that Palm Springs Suns, of California, are encouraging people to go to the game on July 8 naked. To avoid offending such regular followers as they have, and to protect baseball's "family image", the unclad supporters will be placed in a tent in left field, with an opaque screen shielding them from the gaze of the prurient. Sounds just the job for parking up county cricket.

Camino's class

Camino's class 53
Holland regroup 53
England expects 56

FOOTBALL: SPAIN LIKELY TO PRESENT FORMIDABLE OBSTACLE TO HOSTS' HOPES OF PROGRESS

Redknapp confident of return to action

By OLIVER HOLT

JAMIE REDKNAPP, the Liverpool midfield player who dragged England back from the edge of the abyss in the second half of the Group A game against Scotland last Saturday before his day was ruined by a twisted ankle, spoke yesterday about the conflicting emotions that have dominated his Euro 96.

Redknapp went on as a second-half substitute against Scotland and revitalised his team. He played a vital part in Alan Shearer's opening goal and brought Steve McManaman, his Liverpool team-mate, more and more into the game.

Five minutes from the end, though, Redknapp jumped for a high ball, landed awkwardly on his right foot and damaged ankle ligaments. He was carried off on a stretcher.

and his tournament seemed to be over after 40 short minutes.

At Bisham Abbey yesterday, though, Redknapp completed his second day of light training, and although Terry Venables, the England coach, said that he would not be ready for the quarter-final against Spain today, he may come into the reckoning if England reach the last four.

"It was disappointing when I had to go off," Redknapp said. "I was enjoying it so much. I was buzzing and I think everybody else was, too. I had been feeling really sharp in training and I knew I would take my chance if it came. I knew there were only a few minutes left and I was just thinking about the final whistle and relaxing after the game."

"I never quite got to do that, but football is full of highs and lows. I like to think I played my part against Scotland. It did not quite work out the way I wanted it to, but I am on my way back now. I am sure we can win this tournament and, if I continue to improve, hopefully I will be pressing for a place again."

Match that deepens shades of '66

David Miller likens England's task to the one they succeeded in 30 years ago



by OLIVER HOLT

The similarities between England's World Cup quarter-final of 1966 and the European championship quarter-final today at Wembley are unmistakable: both against Latin opposition, Argentina and now Spain, and both against uncompromisingly tough and primarily defensive opposition. Now, as then, it could be England's most difficult hurdle on the way to the final, presenting strategic problems that will test every element of the ingenuity of Terry Venables and his team.

Although Spain have the worst disciplinary record of the quarter-finalists, with nine bookings and one sending-off, they are not the same ruthless breed of spoiling team as were Argentina. However, they will make it immensely difficult for England to build any rhythm, let alone run in four goals, as they did against Holland.

Spain's cautious formation of 4-5-1 under Javier Clemente bears a striking resemblance to the strategy of Spain's foremost tennis player, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario: keep getting the ball back, neutralise the opposition's strengths, wait patiently for the opponent's mistake.

The danger for England will be to become frustrated, then to lay themselves open to the counter-attack by pushing too many men forward, urged on

by a fanatical crowd. Spain wear you down like a dripping tap. In 90 minutes against France — who, with the sadly eliminated Italy, have been probably the most complete team in the competition — Spain absorbed everything, conceding only one goal, and levelled the score minutes from the end. A penalty shoot-out today must be a wretched possibility.

England memorably won that match with a near-post header by Geoff Hurst from a left-wing centre by Martin Peters — the only goal. Today is likely to be similarly low-scoring, and England can expect the same dilemma.

Ray Wilson, the England left back in 1966, later recalled how difficult the match had been. "They'd won in 64 in Rio [a mini-tournament staged by Brazil] without conceding a goal, so we knew they'd be tough to play against," Wilson said. "Theirs was a waiting game, whereas we were a counter-punching team. So the home side needed to change its style a bit. We were fortunate to have Geoff [Hurst] in the side. Until we had him, we couldn't play a 50-50 ball up front to draw a defender, and

because you need a big man, good in the air, so that you can then profit from the knock-downs. England may need something equally special today from Shearer.

McManaman and Anderson, on the flanks, will find that they are heavily patrolled, perhaps even double-marked, respectively, Otero and Luis Enrique, and Sergi and Amavisca, in the way that England double-marked with Gary Neville and Pearce against the Holland wingers, Hoekstra and Jordi.

If Nadal, Spain's hit-man — he was sent off in the 1994 World Cup against South Korea and in the qualifying competition for Euro 96 — is detailed to shadow Shearer, where will England find space? It might need one moment of analytical game-reading by Platt, breaking from deep, to achieve a single clear scoring position.

In England's favour will be the fact that Spain, understandably, go to Wembley as the side with more to fear, whether real or imaginary. That kind of pre-match anxiety can become a burden that ultimately undermines concentration. Spain's unbeaten record since 1994 is a measure of their competence and it is unlikely that England will find much joy, even if they should win. In that instance, the joy will come afterwards.



Fortunately, the road-going version is smoother, somewhat quieter, and fits neatly through your letterbox.

To receive your Audi A4 brochure, call 0345 99 88 77.

Audi

SPORT

SATURDAY JUNE 22 1996

GOLF 50

AMERICANS KNOCKED OFF COURSE IN CURTIS CUP MATCH

No quarter likely to be given as Spain block hosts' route to last four of Euro 96

England steeled for acid test

ROB HUGHES



Football Correspondent

THE team that prevails at Wembley this expectant afternoon will be English in style and temperament. It will spare nothing in reaching to the depths of courage, it will try to run the legs off the opposition. It will be direct, fierce and riding on the enormous roar of a full Wembley crowd. And the name of that team is... are you sure?

All but 4,000 people among the 76,000 who are fured to the temple of English football after the triumphalism of Tuesday night will be chorusing the anthems of the team in white. The assumption has been building for days that, now that England have dethroned the Dutch, nothing can stop them winning the biggest sporting event in this country since 1966.

However, those who are intoxicated by goodwill had better be prepared for something far more attritional, something that will take each team to its very limits, and something that may be decided by a solitary goal, maybe even what is termed a "golden goal" in extra time – possibly even by the dreaded penalty shoot-out that, from now until the end of the tournament, will separate equals.

And if, though it is deemed treason to suggest it, that team today is not England, the nation has only itself to blame, for it was an Englishman who exported football to northern Spain 98 years ago, and who inspired Athletic Club de Bilbao.

It runs through the Basque separation from Spain itself, it reminds the people that the tough northerners are more inclined to the English and their ways, and, for that alone, Javier Clemente, the Spain coach and the feisty little man from the Basque country, is unpopular to the point of apoplexy in the country where he is building a team more on the fighting spirit of the British than on the individualistic flair that once ruled, and let down, the Spanish nation.

The much-reported little spar between Clemente and a Madrid radio broadcaster this week was a manifestation of the Madrid media's detestation of the Basque, who has



Platt, left, who could replace the suspended Ince at Wembley today, looks relaxed as he talks to Anderton during England's training session yesterday

Clemente the way to emulate what is good about the English. Bobby Robson, about to take up employment in Barcelona and without doubt England's most successful manager abroad, is coming home to the realisation that his teachings to Clemente could rebound this afternoon.

Clemente, in the image of Brian Clough, is a manager of men who pours his obsession with desire into players lucky enough to have a career where he finished with a bad knee injury at 24.

Clemente set sail for England, alighted at Ipswich, presented himself to Robson and stayed a month. He pestered Robson for knowledge, and he returned to Bilbao to redesign Athletic into a 4-4-2 Ipswich formation, winning the Spanish league and preparing his team for national team management.

The much-reported little spar between Clemente and a Madrid radio broadcaster this week was a manifestation of the Madrid media's detestation of the Basque, who has



ENGLAND v SPAIN

Wembley
Kick-off: 3pm.
Television coverage starts at 2.30 in Grandstand on BBC1. Highlights on BBC1 at 10.25-11.25
Radio: Radio 5 Live (coverage starts at 11.30am)

This will be the first match at this level to be played under the "Golden Goal" rule if the scores are level after 90 minutes, the team that scores first in a period of sudden death extra time: the first team to score wins. If no team scores within the extra period, the match will be settled by penalty shoot-out.

sions this week, has isolated Gascoigne and Steve McManaman as the English players who must be stopped.

The heart of the Spanish resistance has been resistance itself. Nadal and the powerful, but fair, Hierro work at the heart of midfield, in front of the equally forceful central defenders, Alkorta and Abelardo. The full backs fly with pace, but the team finds it hard to be inspired into goalscoring form until the final quarter of the match.

Spain have twice come from behind, twice won precious points within the last five minutes, and this sting in their tail is planned for and expected even of a side made up of players supposedly tired after an extra-long domestic league season, which ran until May 26. "My team has a big heart," Clemente said. "No side's is bigger. And you are right to describe the strengths as my pivotal midfield players, they are the best in the world."

England decided on Tuesday night that they, too, had talents among the best on

earth. Sheringham said that he plays now in a team that is on a par with Brazil. Yet there is no reason to suppose that the heart of the Spaniards will stop beating just because the greater mass of the crowd is on high for someone else, and if the injury scares involving Adams, Shearer and Anderton become a gamble on their fitness, be sure that Spain will test every muscle, every sinew and every ounce of determination.

Today could bring confirmation of the new, super England, or it could bring the end of a shortlived fantasy, Knockout football at this level is as uncompromising as that.

ENGLAND (3-5-1, probab): D Sheringham (Arsenal), D Adams (Arsenal), S Pearce (Nottingham Forest), S Mokhamman (Liverpool), D Paul (Middlesbrough), G Southgate (Aston Villa), P Adams (Sheffield United), D Anderton (Tottenham), H Holland (Tottenham), E Sheringham (Tottenham), H Holland (Tottenham), A Shearer (Sheffield United), D Platt (Sheffield United), A Zubeldia (Valladolid), A Beloso (Real Zaragoza), R Allorts (Real Madrid), F Alberdi (Barcelona), Sergi (Barcelona), J Mestres (Deportivo), R Moreno (Barcelona), F Hierro (Real Madrid), M A Nunez (Celta Vigo), J Caminero (Athletico Madrid), J Pizzi (Tenerife).

Referee: M Batta (France)

game on the back of a couple of centuries, feeling that he is going to hit every shot off the middle of the bat.

That feeling happened to my team in the 1990 World Cup in Italy. We got to a stage where we did not think we could lose. It is a massive wave that they are riding at the moment and, with a bit of luck, it will become unstoppable as success follows success.

They just have to beware of complacency but I think they can cope with that by now.

People have asked me if I will have any divided loyalties today with so many of the Barcelona players on view. Of course, I like to think that they will show me things that will give me confidence for next season but I cannot change my nationality. I have got my loyalties.

I am reading articles by players here and there and they seem to be enjoying themselves and the tournament. They should be able to cope with the new feeling of people actually expecting them to win for once. They are not afraid of anybody.



Jack Russell, above, scored his second Test century as England reached 344 all out on the second day of the second Test match against India at Lord's yesterday. At close of play, India trailed by 261 runs with eight first-innings wickets in hand.

Report, page 51

ON MONDAY

A 16-page guide to Wimbledon



Shearer survives rigorous health check

BY OLIVER HOLT

THERE was a time when all Alan Shearer was ever asked in press conferences was 'why could he never score for England'. That line of questioning has gone for ever. Since he scored against Switzerland in the opening game of the European championship, all most people want to know is how long he can keep the run going. Yesterday, though, the subject was something different altogether.

The English and Spanish press were desperate to know about Shearer's thigh. Shearer was patient personified. He said he did not think it was a strain that had brought on the tightness that had forced him to miss training, that it was more likely to be some sort of innocuous knock he had suffered in

the win over Holland on Tuesday. No, he said, he had never had an injury like this before, and, no, he did not know if it would be aggravated by playing on with it. He thought rest was the best policy, together with the ultrasound treatment he was receiving. It would be his decision whether he played in the quarter-final against Spain today. He would have a fitness test this morning.

The attention to detail, though, was understandable. Coming amid doubts about the fitness of Darren Anderton and Tony Adams, the loss of Shearer, who has scored in every game so far and is the tournament's leading marksman, would be a heavy blow for England to absorb ahead of today's encounter at Wembley.

Already without Paul Ince, who will probably be replaced by David Platt in central midfield, England can afford any further disruption to a team that had settled into a rhythm, especially against opponents as determined and unyielding as the Spanish. Gradually,

Caminero in demand 53
Team-by-team guide 54
In heaven with England 55
David Miller 55

though, fears were soothed as Terry Venables, the England coach, laid a calming hand on tense shoulders.

Adams' injury, a problem with a sprain in his knee, was similar to the one he faced before the game

against Holland, Venables said, and he was able to play in that one. Anderton's problem, too, is thought to be relatively minor, even though it stopped him training for a second successive day yesterday.

Shearer gave nothing away but the consensus among observers at the England training ground was that it would take more than a thigh strain to make him sit out the game.

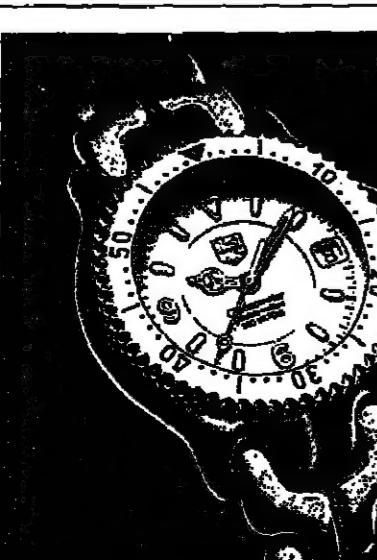
When the dissection of the injury problems was over, Venables turned his attention to today's opponents. "They have got a great spirit and they are technically very good," he said. "You do not go 20 games unbeaten by lying down."

Shearer warned that no one should expect any repeat of the free-flowing match with the Dutch. He forecast a tight, tense game, a war

of attrition more akin to last Saturday's game against Scotland without the same high-scoring result and euphoria.

"I would be surprised if we were allowed the same kind of freedom we had against the Dutch," Shearer said. "Spain are a very dogged side and they do not give anything away. As long as we give 100 per cent, though, that is all anyone can ask of us."

As for signs of encouragement about his prospects of playing today, he gave one last signal that his appetite for scoring has not been dulled by his recent glut. "I have always said that the best feeling in the world is scoring a goal," Shearer said. "Don't tell my missus, that, but it is. When that ball hits the back of the net, it is fantastic."



TAGHeuer
SWISS MADE SINCE 1860

Perfect if you need extra time

Tag Heuer and Watches of Switzerland together make great partners. The Tag Heuer S/el Chronometer is now available at

Britain's only dedicated Swiss watch specialist. Stockists nationwide. Phone for your nearest branch on 0171 931 7171.

Watches of Switzerland

The Times on the Internet
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk>

10 P.M.
SUNDAY
Clearing
Sche
giv

10 P.M.
SUNDAY
Clearing
Sche
giv